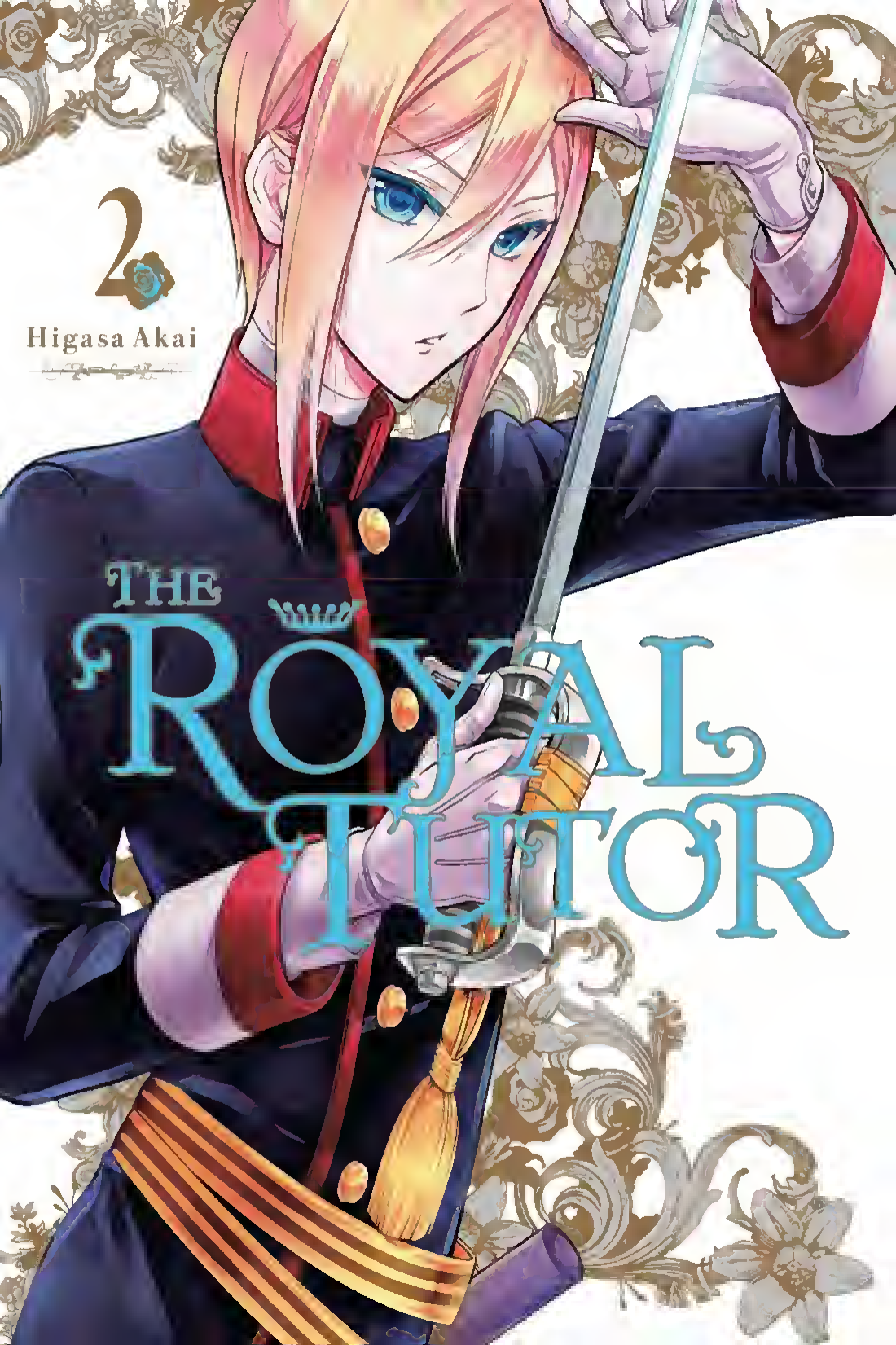
2
Higasa Akai
THE
ROYAL
TUTOR

2

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A TUTOR CALLED TO THE ROYAL PALACE OF THE KINGDOM OF GRANZ-REICH—
HEINE WITTGENSTEIN.
...HE HAS MANAGED TO OVERCOME ALL OBSTACLES WHILST BUILDING A FOUNDATION OF MUTUAL TRUST—
FACING THESE FOUR TROUBLESOME PRINCELINGS, WHO HAD CHASED AWAY MANY A ROYAL TUTOR BEFORE HIM, WITH DIRECT SINCERITY...
I SEE YOUR ROYAL HIGHNESSES ARE ALL PRESENT AND ACCOUNTED FOR.
NOW, FOR PROFESSOR HEINE'S NEXT LESSON...

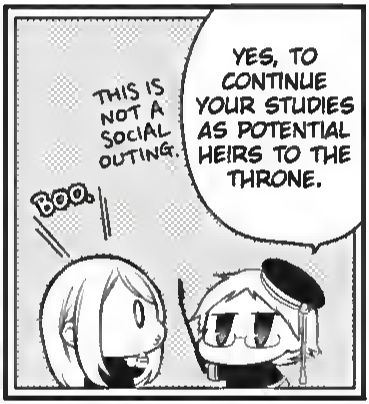
I ARRIVED ONE QUARTER OF AN HOUR EARLY!
YES, MASTER!
FWIP
BRUNO, THE THIRD SON
NOD
.....
KAI, THE SECOND SON
WHAT DID YOU CALL US TO THE RECEPTION HALL FOR?
OOH, ARE WE GONNA HAVE A GROUP LESSON?
THE FIFTH SON, LICHT
THE FOURTH SON, LEONHARD
EH?
CREAK
ギィ
THIS LESSON IS NOT ONE THAT CAN BE LEARNED FROM A DESK.
WHAT!?
WELL, YOU ONLY GOT ONE POINT ON YOUR TEST!
SHUT UP!
IF IT'S AT LEONIE'S LEVEL, IT'LL BE SIMPLE! CREAT!
HUSH, PLEASE.

Chapter 8

The Princes, Out on the Town!

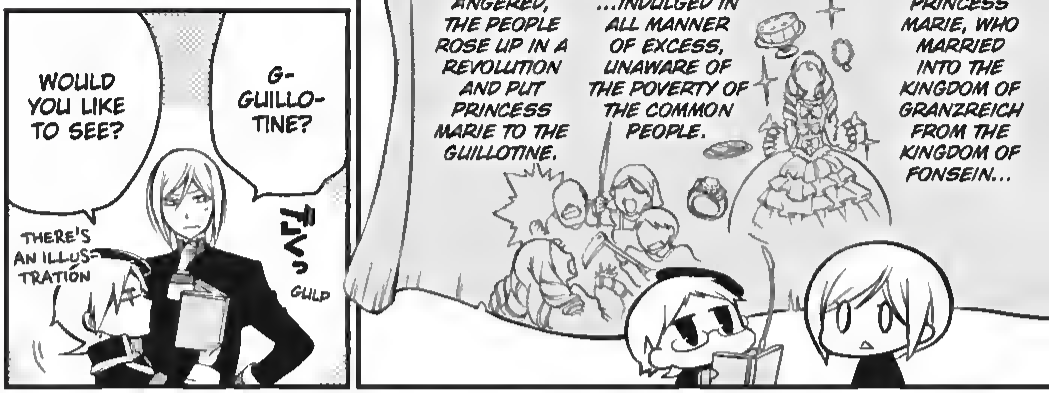
WHAT?
AN EXCURSION ...?
REALLY!?
WE GET TO GO INTO TOWN!? BRILLIANT!

I'VE CERTAINLY READ MUCH ABOUT COMMONER LIFE, BUT...
...I'VE NEVER LEFT MY CARRIAGE..
I'VE NEVER WALKED THROUGH TOWN... EITHER...


YES, TO CONTINUE YOUR STUDIES AS POTENTIAL HEIRS TO THE THRONE.
THIS IS NOT A SOCIAL OUTING.
BOO

AS FOR MEEE, I'VE BEEN TO THE CAFÉ WHERE ANNE WORKS AND TO ROSA'S TAILORING WORKSHOP AND TO CORINNA'S CABARET AND...
YOU'VE SEEN TOO MUCH!
SHAME-LESS WHELP!!

WELL, I'M NOT GOING.
SEE?
IT IS NOT TOO DISORDERLY EITHER.
GOING INTO TOWN IS A GOOD EXPERIENCE IN ITSELF.
I LOOK FORWARD TO LEARNING FROM YOU, MASTER!
YAY!
COME, LET US BE ON OUR WAY.
.....
I'VE NOT ONCE WALKED ABOUT TOWN EITHER, BUT WHAT OF IT?
WHY WOULD A ROYAL EVER NEED TO LEARN HOW COMMONERS LIVE?
ACCORDING TO RECORDS OF THE GRANZREICH ROYAL FAMILY TWO HUNDRED YEARS AGO...
SLIP
.....
HMPH.


PRINCESS MARIE, WHO MARRIED INTO THE KINGDOM OF GRANZREICH FROM THE KINGDOM OF FONSEIN...
...INDULGED IN ALL MANNER OF EXCESS, UNAWARE OF THE POVERTY OF THE COMMON PEOPLE.
ANGERED, THE PEOPLE ROSE UP IN A REVOLUTION AND PUT PRINCESS MARIE TO THE GUILLOTINE.
G-GUILLO-TINE?
WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE?
THERE'S AN ILLUS-TRATION
ゴクッ
GULP

AAEE
EE!

PROFESSOR HEINE HAS LEARNED HOW TO HANDLE PRINCE LEONHARD.
I-I'LL GO...I'LL LEARN ALL ABOUT THE LIVES OF COMMONERS...ONLY SPARE ME THE GUILLOTINE...!
TRMBL
ぷるぷる
TRMBL
ぷるぷる
IF YOU STILL REFUSE TO GO, I SHAN'T FORCE YOU...

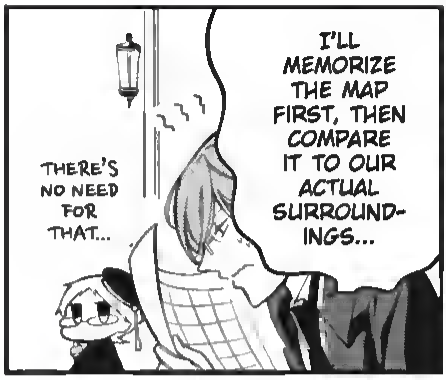
WE WILL BE VISITING TOWN IN SECRET. PLEASE CHANGE INTO GARB THAT WILL NOT EXPOSE YOU AS PRINCES.
WE MEET AT THE GATES AT TEN ON THE HOUR.
ROGER!
IT'S ALMOST TIME... SHOULD I BE CONCERNED?
I'M READY, TEACH!
TA-DAA! AN ELEGANT AND FASHIONABLE GENT!
AH, YES. YOU WOULD BE ACCUSTOMED TO THIS.
NOT BAD, RIGHT? IT TOOK A WHILE TO DRESS UP EVERYONE THOUGH!

OH MY.
YOUR HIGHNESSES LOOK RATHER DASHING.
YOU SHOULD HAVE NO ISSUES BLENDING IN.
I... THOUGHT THAT IT WOULD BE WISE TO HIDE OUR FACES...
I TOLD YOU THAT WOULD MAKE YOU STAND OUT MORE!
DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA HOW DREADFUL IT WOULD HAVE BEEN IF I HADN'T STOPPED THEM?
TIME OUT!
A MOMENT TOO LATE, AND THEY'D HAVE BEEN A TROUPE OF MASQUERADERS...

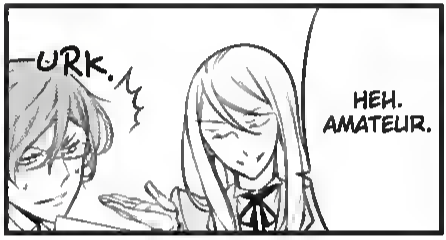
L-LEAVING ALREADY ...?
PEEK
QUEEN MOTHER.
AND PRINCESS ADELE.
NOW THEN, I ASK THAT YOU MAKE IT A POINT TO AVOID DRAWING ATTENTION TO YOURSELVES AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE WHILST WE ARE ABOUT TOWN.
THERE WILL BE QUITE A FUSS IF ANYONE LEARNS THAT YOU ARE PRINCES.
OK!
PLEASE BE CAREFUL NOT TO GET HURT OR ILL...
TAKE THIS TO BUY WHATEVER CATCHES YOUR FANCY.
AND THIS MONEY IS IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY ...
YOU MUST ALL COME BACK HOME TO US SAFE AND SOUND...
SOB
めそめそ
SOB
SOB
W-WE'LL BE FINE, GRANDMOTHER!
FRET
おろおろ
FRET
THE PROFESSOR WILL BE WITH US!
FRET
おろおろ
WE'LL NEVER LEAVE AT THIS RATE...

RATTLE
RATTLE
LET US OFF HERE, THEN, PLEASE.
I'VE TAKEN US ONTO A SIDE STREET.
KA-CHA
CREAK
WOOOW...!
...!

WHOO-HOO! IT'S THE CITY!!
IT LOOKS QUITE LIVELY.
NGH...


I'LL MEMORIZE THE MAP FIRST, THEN COMPARE IT TO OUR ACTUAL SURROUND-INGS...
THERE'S NO NEED FOR THAT...

HMM. WALKING THROUGH TOWN IS AN ALTOGETHER DIFFERENT EXPERIENCE THAN READING A MAP.
ONE COULD GET LOST, VENTURING OUT ALONE.


HEH. AMATEUR.
URK.

GLANCE
きょろ
GLANCE
きょろ
.....

ALL RIGHT, BIG BROTHERS, I'LL TAKE YOU ROUND TO ALL MY FAVORITE SHOPS, SHALL I?
FOLLOW ME!!

WHY DO YOU BOTHER GOING TO TOWN, THEN?
AH HA HA.
NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT, I WAS ALWAYS FOLLOWING MY LADY FRIENDS. I HAVEN'T THE FOGGIEST IDEA WHERE ANYTHING IS!
G-GOOD GOD! LOOK AT ALL THE PEOPLE ON THIS STREET!
CHATTER
CHATTER
CHATTER
CHATTER
...HMM ...?

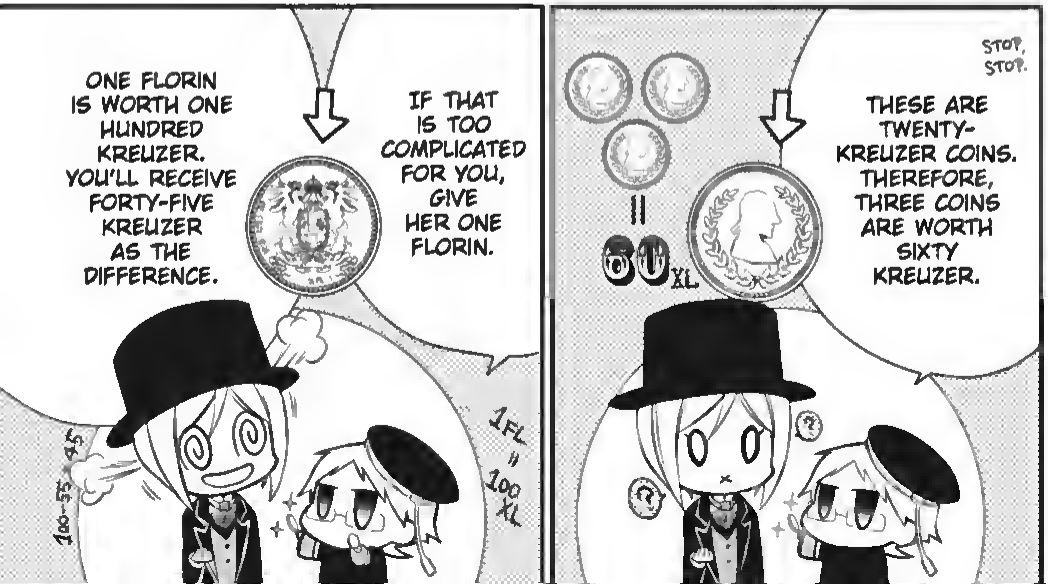
THIS IS RINGSTRASSE, THE RING ROAD, COMMONLY KNOWN AS "THE RING."
THIS RUBBLE IS A REMNANT OF THE WALLS.
...AND A MASSIVE CONSTRUCTION EFFORT COMPLETED TWENTY YEARS AGO, IT BECAME A MAIN ROAD.
YEARS AGO, RAMPARTS STOOD HERE. FOLLOWING THEIR DEMOLITION...
NGHH..
THAT'S WHY THERE ARE SO MANY PEOPLE?
SQUISH
ALL OF THE PRINCIPAL PUBLIC BUILDINGS ARE POSITIONED ALONG THE RING.
SQUISH
...THE CITY HALL, AND SO ON.
FROM HERE YOU CAN SEE THE NATIONAL OPERA HOUSE...

THE GUILLOTINE...
THE GUILLOTINE...
SHIVER
SHIVER
ビクッ
PARTICULARLY YOU, PRINCE LEONHARD.
ARE YOU LISTENING?
NOW THOROUGHLY COMMONER-PHOBIC
WEINNER NOW BOASTS A POPULATION OF 1.3 MILLION AND IS CONSIDERED A WORLD CENTER.
DO TAKE CARE NOT TO STRAY FROM THE GROUP.
TRULY!? YOU WOULDN'T LIE, WOULD YOU!?
COME ALONG. LOOK WHERE YOU'RE WALKING.
YOU'LL BE FINE SO LONG AS NO ONE FINDS OUT YOU'RE A PRINCE.
HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO SHOP TO YOUR HEARTS' CONTENT?
YES, WE'VE ENTERED THE SHOPPING DISTRICT.
THE QUEEN MOTHER DID GIVE YOU POCKET MONEY.
MANY... STORES... HERE...

?!
SHOP-PING...?
I'VE NEVER DONE THIS... "SHOPPING."
MEANDER
ふらふら
MEANDER
ふらふら
I SHALL SEE MYSELF TO A BOOKSTORE, THEN!
.....
REALLY, LEONIE!?
THEN WE SHALL RECTIFY THAT.
HOW DOES THIS GENERAL SHOP LOOK TO YOU?
WELCOME!
DING
カラン
DING

PICK OUT WHATEVER YOU LIKE AND HAND IT TO THE CLERK.
HMM...
WHATEVER I LIKE YOU SAY...?
THIS! I-IT'S EVER SO CUTE!
LORD HAVE MERCY...
I WANT IT!
"CUTE"...?

THAT WILL BE FIFTY-FIVE KREUZER.
WHAT!? I DON'T HAVE FIFTY-FIVE!!


ONE FLORIN IS WORTH ONE HUNDRED KREUZER. YOU'LL RECEIVE FORTY-FIVE KREUZER AS THE DIFFERENCE.
IF THAT IS TOO COMPLICATED FOR YOU, GIVE HER ONE FLORIN.
100-55=45
1FL = 100XL
STOP, STOP.
THESE ARE TWENTY-KREUZER COINS. THEREFORE, THREE COINS ARE WORTH SIXTY KREUZER.
= 60XL

I FEAR THIS CHILD COULD NOT SURVIVE IF HE HADN'T BEEN BORN ROYAL...
EH!?
SHOVE
H-HERE! TAKE WHATEVER YOU WILL!!
FIVE KREUZER IS YOUR CHANGE.
ちゃりん
CLINK
ONE, TWO... THERE. SIXTY KREUZER.
AHEM. I'LL TAKE AS MUCH AS THE DOLL IS WORTH, THEN.
HOW WONDERFUL FOR YOU...
...THAT THE CLERK WAS SO KIND.
GLOWWW
LOOK, I'VE DONE IT! SHOPPING! AREN'T YOU IMPRESSED!?

AH, MASTER.
BOOKSTORES ARE WONDROUS PLACES, ARE THEY NOT?
HOW HAVE PRINCE BRUNO AND PRINCE KAI FARED, I WONDER?
COME, LICHT! MORE! LET'S GO OVER THERE!!
HUH!?
I'VE ALWAYS ASKED SERVANTS TO RETRIEVE THE BOOKS I REQUIRE.
BUT BEING AT A BOOKSTORE IN PERSON ROUSES ONE'S INTEREST IN ALL MANNER OF OTHER BOOKS.
SO IT DOES.
どっさり
STACKED
WITH THAT SAID, DO YOU MEAN TO BUY ALL OF THIS?
I COULD NOT DIVERT MY INTEREST...

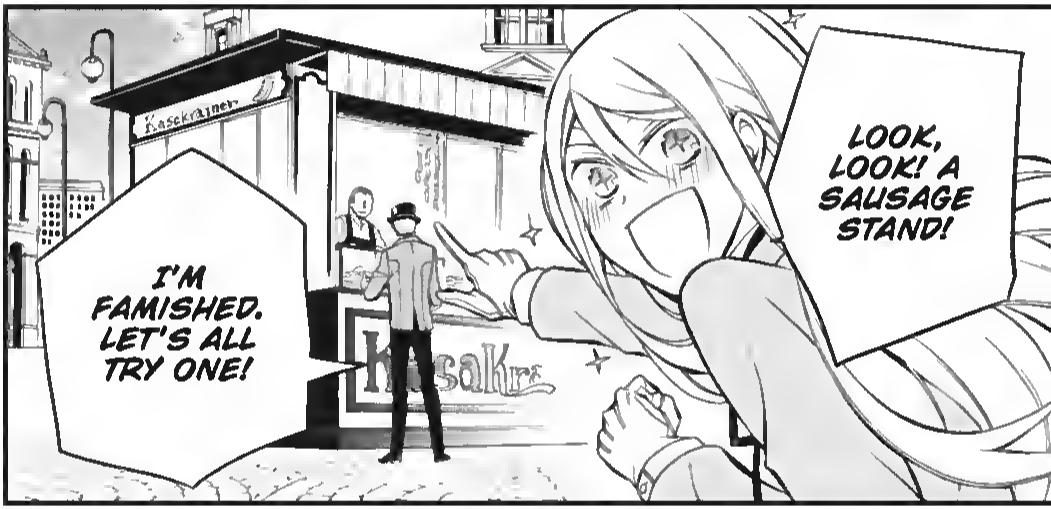
I AM WELL AWARE THAT I CANNOT CARRY ALL OF THEM AND, FURTHERMORE, HAVE GONE OVER MY BUDGET.
BUT I MUST HAVE BOTH OF THESE...
AND I'VE BEEN SEARCHING FOR THIS BOOK FOR AGES.
HRRRM...
BUT THIS ONE IS ALSO...
NO...! IF IT IS NOT POSSIBLE, THE MANLY THING TO DO IS TO ACCEPT IT...!
MY WORD...!
BAM
THESE THREE VOLUMES ONLY, PLEASE!
AHEM...WE CAN HOLD ITEMS FOR YOU AS WELL, SIR.
PROBLEM SOLVED

I DO NOT HAVE ENOUGH! I MUST CHOOSE!
MONEY? WHAT'S THAT?
YOU SEEM AS THOUGH YOU COULD MAKE YOUR WAY EVEN IF YOU HAD NOT BEEN BORN A ROYAL.
*COMPARED WITH LEONHARD
I HAVE NO BAG TODAY ...
I DECIDED TO RETURN FOR THE ENTIRE LOT ON A FUTURE DATE.
THAT WOULD BE WISE.
MASTER, HE'S...HE'S PRAISING ME!
はあはあ
BLUSH
WOULD YOU KNOW WHERE I MIGHT FIND PRINCE KAI?
I BELIEVE I SAW HIM SOMEWHERE AROUND HERE...
IT WAS...NOT MEANT TO BE TAKEN AS SUCH HIGH PRAISE...
SOB
OH, MAS-TER ...!

...BOUGHT... BIRD FEED... HERE...
BROTHER... YOU COULD HAVE BOUGHT SOMETHING FOR YOURSELF.
FLUFF... WANTED TO FEEL...
.....
IS THAT YOU, PRINCE KAI?

TEACHER... LEFT-OVERS... WANT TO FEED THEM?
THANK YOU KINDLY.
FWLIFF
もふ
FWLIFF
もふ
FWLIFF
もふ
FWLIFF
もふ
TOSS
MY, MY.
THEY GATHER IN THE BLINK OF AN EYE.
*DON'T FEED THE PIGEONS
THE PROFES-SOR TAKES TO THE SKIES!!

HEYYY! COME OVER HERE!
THERE'S NO NEED TO WORRY.
HFF! HFF!
RUSTLE
MASTER... I THOUGHT I HAD LOST YOU FOREVER...
THANK THE LORD I REACHED YOU IN TIME...


I'M FAMISHED. LET'S ALL TRY ONE!
LOOK, LOOK! A SAUSAGE STAND!

.....
HOW WOULD YOU USE YOUR KNIFE AND FORK!?
STAND-ING UP!?

WHERE ARE THE RESTAURANT'S SEATS?
LOOKS LIKE YOU EAT STANDING UP!
ISN'T THAT NOVEL?

HERE YA ARE!
FIVE KÄSE-KRAINERS, GOOD SIR.
AS A REPRESENTATIVE OF COMMON PEOPLE, I SHALL DEMONSTRATE.
GAPE
FIRST, YOU HOLD THE SAUSAGE BY THE BREAD BUN AND OPEN YOUR MOUTH WIDE.
CHOMP
THEN YOU TAKE A BITE.
VOILÀ. SIMPLE, NO?
MUNCH
MUNCH
.....
IT SEEMS SO... VULGAR...
SUCH DIS-RESPECT.

OOH, THAT'S GOOD! AND SIMPLE!
I LIKE IT!
.....
MASTER LOWERED HIMSELF TO THIS SO AS TO DEMONSTRATE FOR US...I HAVE...TO...
N-NO! DEAREST BROTHER...!
BADUM
BADUM
THEY HAD A SURPRISING NUMBER OF FIRSTS TODAY.
THIS WAS A GOOD EXPERIENCE FOR THEM. BRINGING THEM TO TOWN WAS QUITE WORTHWHILE.
IN ANY CASE, I'M MOST PLEASED THAT THE DAY ENDED WITHOUT INCIDENT.
IT WILL BE DARK SOON. WE SHOULD RETURN...
GONE

WHUMP
ACK...!
TH...
THIEF!
OUCH...
GRANNY! GRANNY!
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT!?

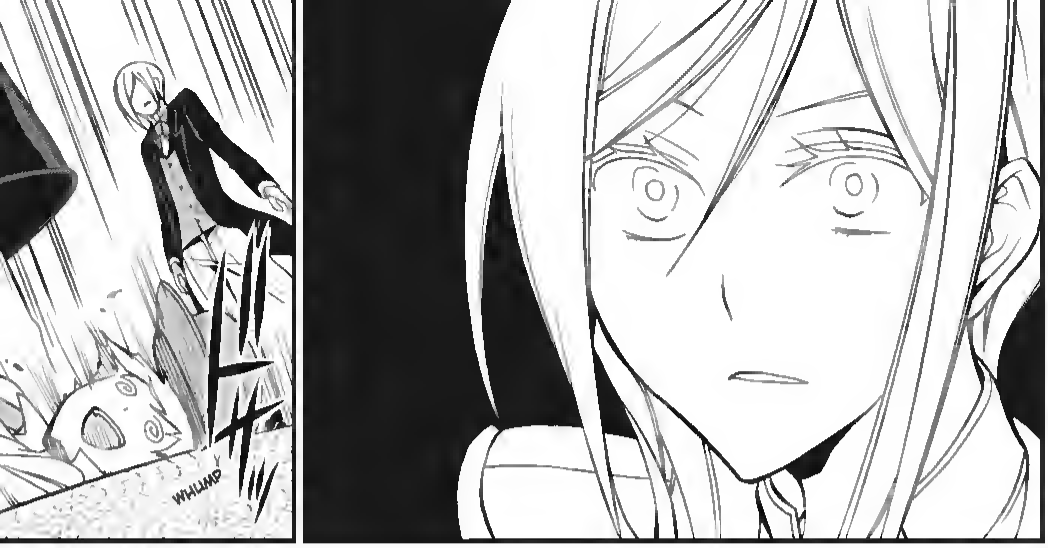
OHH, HE'S ALREADY SO FAR...
OUR MONEY'S IN THAT BAG...
WE SHOULD CALL A WATCHMAN FOR THE TIME BEING.
THE COWARD... PREYING ON THE OLD AND FRAIL...!
YES.
LICHT, SEE TO HER.
GOT IT!
GRANNY, ARE YOU GONNA BE OKAY?
I'LL BE JUST FINE, SWEETHEART.
THANK THE LORD HE LAID HAND ON ME AN' NOT YOU...

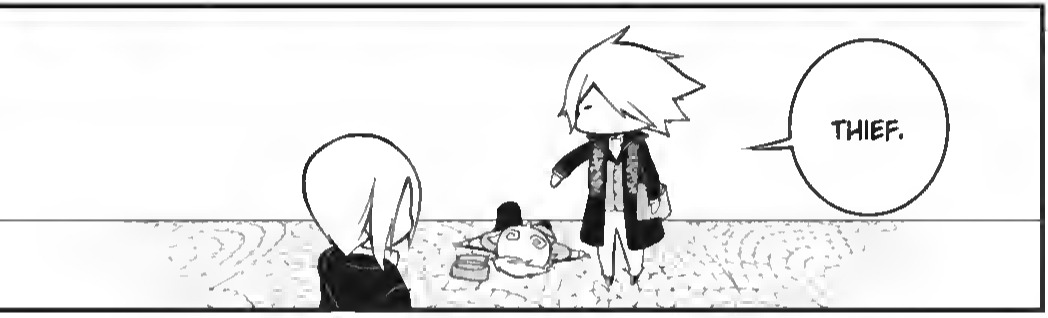
"YOU MUST ALL COME BACK HOME TO US SAFE AND SOUND..."
NOTHING COULD MAKE ME HAPPIER THAN KNOWING YOU'RE SAFE AND SOUND...
.....
GRAND... MOTHER...
KH...!
SHWFF
.....
LEONHARD ...?

FLING
I WON'T LET THAT THIEF GET AWAY WITH THIS...!
WAIT HERE! I SHALL RETRIEVE YOUR BAG!

B-BUT HE'S ALREADY OUT OF SIGHT...
!
SKRTT
THAT DISTANCE IS NOTHING.
I'VE TAKEN HOME THE TOP PRIZE IN THE JUNIOR TRACK-AND-FIELD FIFTH DIVISION THREE YEARS IN A ROW.
ZOOM
YOU'D BE A FOOL TO UNDER-ESTIMATE ME!
NO! YOU MUSTN'T DRAW ATTENTION TO YOUR-SELF—

MN.


WHUMP


THIEF.

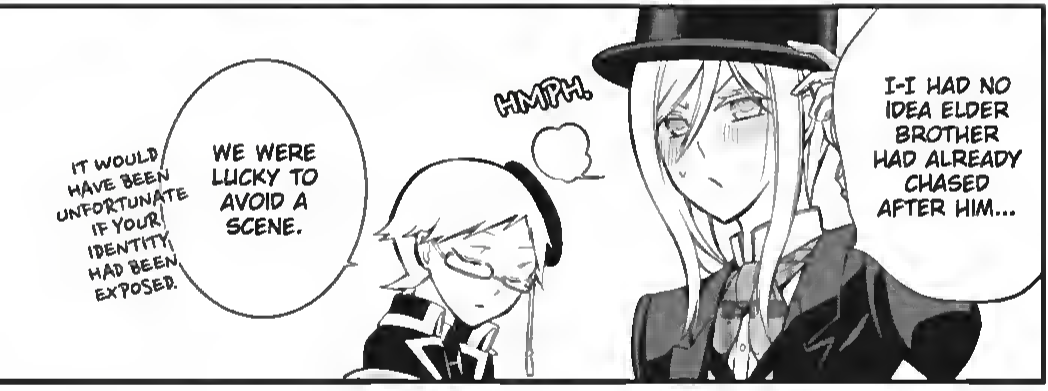
...GOT IT BACK...
WHILE EVERYONE... TALKED... I RAN...

CLENCH
.....

WHAAAAAT!?

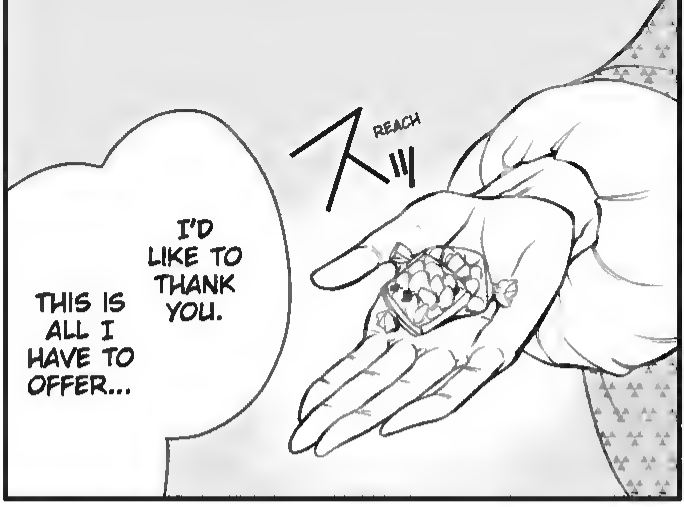
……

"I SHALL RETRIEVE YOUR BAG!"
"I WON'T LET THAT THIEF GET AWAY WITH THIS...!"
.....
NOW, NOW, STOP THAT.


IT WOULD HAVE BEEN UNFORTUNATE IF YOUR IDENTITY HAD BEEN EXPOSED.
WE WERE LUCKY TO AVOID A SCENE.
HMPH.
I-I HAD NO IDEA ELDER BROTHER HAD ALREADY CHASED AFTER HIM...

?
PRINCE KAI IS QUICK ON HIS FEET!!
I WAS SO STARTLED BY HIS UNEXPECTED RISE TO ACTION THAT I MERELY WATCHED.

TRUTH BE TOLD, I WAS FULLY AWARE THAT PRINCE KAI HAD TAKEN OFF AFTER THE THIEF.


REACH
I'D LIKE TO THANK YOU.
THIS IS ALL I HAVE TO OFFER...

E-EXCUSE ME...

SHIMMER
はわぁ
NEVER SEEN THIS KIND BEFORE... THANK YOU...!
AH, THAT'S... IT'S A TEATIME TREAT YOU'D FIND IN ANY HOME.
STILL, I'M GLAD YOU LIKE IT.

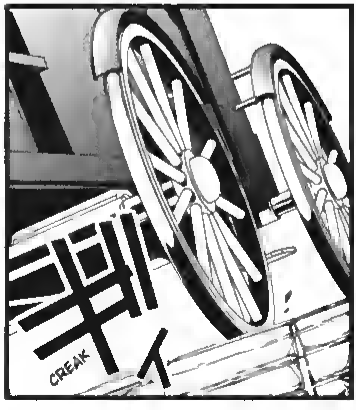
ESPECIALLY ME...
W-WE COULDN'T POSSIBLY. WE DID NOTHING...
SHIP
I INSIST.

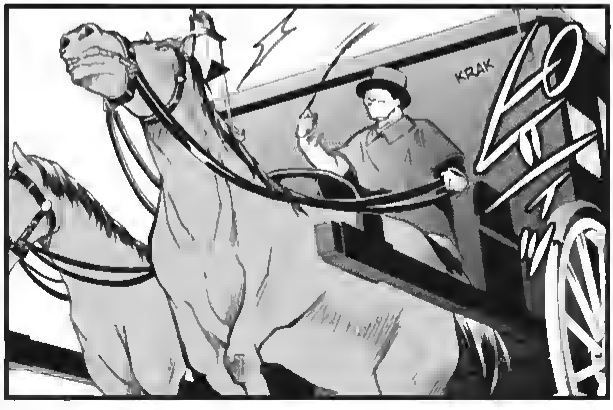
WOULD YOU BOYS LIKE SOME AS WELL?
AH...

THANK YOU, BOYS. TRULY.
THIS IS MY THANKS.
I WAS PLEASED AS PUDDING THAT YOU WOULD STOP TO HELP ME, A COMPLETE STRANGER...
.....

HUH!?
THEY WERE WITH US!?
THANK YOU FOR GUARDING US TODAY.
THAT GOES WITHOUT SAYING.
DOES IT NOT?

YOUR HIGHNESSES, HERR WITTGENSTEIN. WE'RE HERE TO ESCORT YOU HOME.
KACHAK


CREAK


KRAK

OOH! LOOK!
IT'S GOR-GEOUS!
THERE'S THE BOOKSTORE I DROPPED BY THIS AFTERNOON.
THEN ACROSS FROM IT IS THE GENERAL STORE WHERE I WENT SHOPPING?

A PLACE WHERE 1.3 MILLION PEOPLE CARRY ON THEIR LIVES.
1.3 MILLION PEOPLE, EACH WITH HIS OR HER OWN UNIQUE VIEWPOINT AND PERSONALITY.
...SOMEONE LIVES AT EACH AND EVERY ONE OF THOSE LIGHTS...
THERE WERE BOTH THE GOOD...
...AND THE BAD.
CORRECT.

THAT IS WEINNER, THE CAPITAL OF YOUR ROYAL HIGHNESSES' KINGDOM.

IF YOU HAVE FELT THE GRAVITY OF THAT, EVEN IF BUT FOR A MOMENT, THEN TODAY'S EXCURSION WAS A SUCCESS.
MM, IF I BECAME KING, I'D WANT ALL OF MY SUBJECTS TO BE YOUNG LADIES, AND THEY'D DRESS IN SWIMWEAR, AND...
YOUR MAJESTYY!
BE SERI-OUS!
IT WAS. WALKING THROUGH WEINNER ON FOOT HAS GIVEN ME A NEW POINT OF VIEW.
WHEN WE MAKE IT HOME, I SHALL REVISIT MY THESES AND CONSIDER HOW BEST TO BUILD THIS NATION'S FUTURE!
WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO DO TO GRANZREICH?
YOU'D BE A TOTALLY BORING KING!
.....

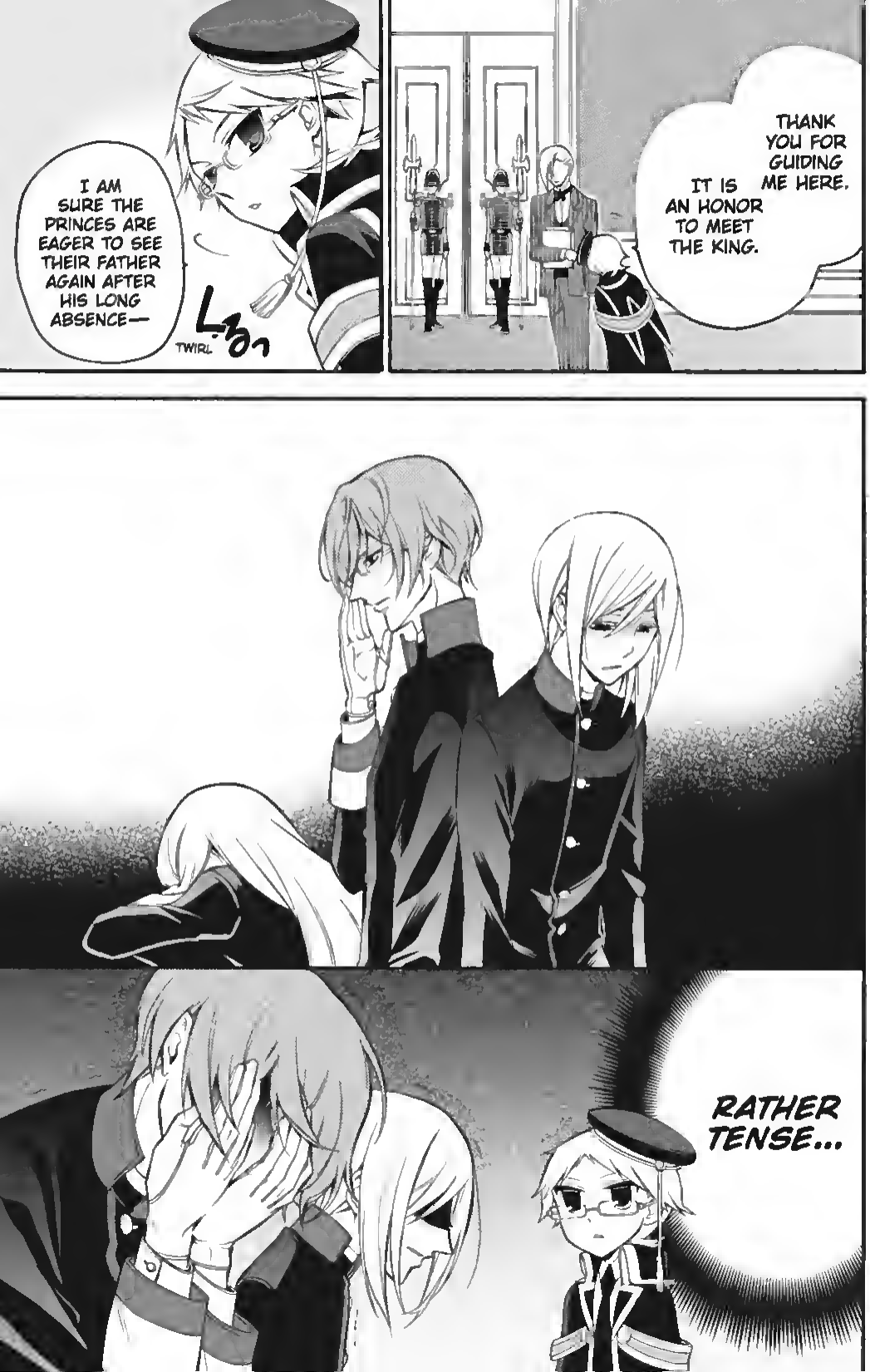
YES.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT COMPLICATIONS THERE MAY BE, BUT...
I WANT... A COUNTRY WHERE EVERYONE FEELS SAFE...
PEACE... IS BEST...
SHINE
...I WANNA BEAT UP ALL THE BAD GUYS...
...AND HAVE A KINGDOM FULL OF GOOD PEOPLE!
...NN? WH-WHAT?

AH-HA-HA! LEONIE, YOU'RE SO...SO SIMPLE! DON'T CHANGE!!
LEONHARD... YOU'RE A GOOD BOY...
.....
WH-WHAT ARE YOU LAUGHING AT!?
I-IF I SAID SOMETHING STRANGE, THEN TELL ME TO MY FACE!!
THE NEXT DAY
NOW, FOR YOUR WRITTEN REPORTS ON YESTERDAY'S EXCURSION...
YES, MASTER!
FWIP
EHHH? THERE'S MORE?
.....
FIZZLE

Chapter 9

Beset by the Greatest of Trials

HIS MAJESTY THE KING RETURNED FROM HIS TRAVELS MERE MOMENTS AGO.
IT BEGAN THE PREVIOUS NIGHT...
I UNDERSTAND.
I WILL SHOW YOU TO THE KING'S STUDY COME MORN.
HIS MAJESTY WISHES TO MEET WITH YOU AND THE PRINCES.
COME MORN
TUG
THIS IS HIS MAJESTY'S ROYAL STUDY, THEN?


I AM SURE THE PRINCES ARE EAGER TO SEE THEIR FATHER AGAIN AFTER HIS LONG ABSENCE—
TWIRL
THANK YOU FOR GUIDING ME HERE.
IT IS AN HONOR TO MEET THE KING.
RATHER TENSE...

SHOVE
LET'S JUST SAY IT'S... COMPLICATED FOR US AS HIS SONS.
D-DO NOT MISINTERPRET! WE COULD NEVER HATE OUR FATHER.
RATHER, WE RESPECT HIM...
THAT IS TO SAY...
I LOVE... FATHER...
EVERYONE SHOULD GET ALONG...
JUST SO YOU KNOW..
STRONG-HEARTED KAINIE HERE IS THE ONLY ONE OF US WHO FEELS UNABASHEDLY JOYFUL ABOUT SEEING FATHER.
IT'S NOT SO MUCH STRONG-HEARTEDNESS AS IT IS THAT HE THINKS ON A GRANDER SCALE, I WOULD SAY...
ALL CREATURES ON THIS EARTH...ARE BRETHEN...
EVERYONE... IS ONE FAMILY...

PERHAPS THEIR RELUCTANCE IS NOT SO VERY STRANGE.
HAAH...
MUST WE SEE FATHER...?
.....
HIS MAJESTY THE KING TOOK THE THRONE AT ONLY EIGHTEEN, THE YOUNGEST MONARCH IN THE HISTORY OF THE KINGDOM...
...AND SOON TRANSFORMED HIS ARMY INTO THE MOST POWERFUL ON THE ENTIRE WESTERN CONTINENT.
HIS LEGACY HAS EARNED HIM A SECOND NAME—
"THE WARRIOR KING."

IS EVERYONE READY?
THEY LOOKED TO BE SQUABBLING...
YES.
BUT EVEN SETTING THAT ASIDE, THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN A KING AND HIS POTENTIAL SUCCESSOR...
...COULD NOT BE SO STRAIGHTFORWARD AS THAT OF AN ORDINARY PARENT AND CHILD.
YOUR MAJESTY.
THE PRINCES AND HERR WITTGENSTEIN ARE HERE TO SEE YOU.
KACHAK
—SEND THEM IN.
CREEEAAKK

KREAK
.....THIS IS HIS MAJESTY...

...MONARCH OF THE KINGDOM OF GRANZ-REICH...
...VIKTOR VON GRANZ-REICH.

.....
YOUR HIGH-NESS-ES.
WHERE ARE YOUR GREETINGS FOR HIS MAJESTY?
AH!
E-ERM...
TAP
TAP
WE CELEBRATE YOUR SAFE RETURN TO THE KINGDOM, YOUR MAJESTY.
YOUR MAJESTY MUST BE WEARY FROM THE LONG JOURNEY.

I AM HEINE WITTGENSTEIN, THE ROYAL TUTOR.
I AM TRULY GRATEFUL FOR THIS HONOR.
BOW
.....
...YOUR MAJES-TY?
CLENCH

DRIP
!!?
A TEAR...!?

'TWAS MERE MOMENTS AGO THAT MY SONS WERE BUT TINY BABES.
ALREADY THEY GREET THEIR FATHER WITH THE FORMALITY EXPECTED OF GROWN MEN...
...F-FORGIVE ME.
I AM OVERCOME WITH EMOTION...
WH—
WHA!!?
HIC...!
*THE KING'S MOTHER
DÉJÀ VU...
IT WAS YOU WHO TAUGHT US HOW TO GREET A ROYAL!
PLEASE, FATHER! WE'RE NOT LITTLE CHILDREN ANYMORE!

I WAS EMBARRASSED TO SEE HIM WITH MY MASTER PRESENT...
SO THAT IS WHY YOU SEEMED LESS THAN PLEASED.
BLUSH
I-I'LL BE FINE.
COME ON, NOW. STOP CRYING!
AHEM...THIS HAPPENS EVERY TIME WE SEE OUR FATHER.
I'VE MISSED YOU, MY BOYS!
QUIT IT!
EVEN "THE WARRIOR KING" IS BUT A MAN— A FATHER— BEFORE HIS CHILDREN, IS HE?
.....
THANK YOU FOR LOOKING AFTER MY SONS.
AND YOU AS WELL, ROYAL TUTOR...

IF I MAY ASK...
...ARE THE TWO OF YOU ACQUAINTED?
.....
ONLY THROUGH CORRE-SPON-DENCE.
...I HEARD WORD OF HIS EXCELLENCE AS AN EDUCATOR, AND WE EXCHANGED SEVERAL LETTERS.
BASED ON THOSE, I SUMMONED HIM TO THE PALACE.
I-I DON'T REALLY...
IF YOU'RE NOT OUTRIGHT OBJECTING TO HIM, IT MUST BE GOING WELL.
NOD NOD
YOU DON'T HAVE TO ASK.
...WITH YOUR NEW TUTOR?
WELL? ARE YOU GETTING ALONG WELL...

—NOW THEN, TO THE HEART OF THE MATTER.
FROM HERE ON, I SPEAK NOT AS YOUR FATHER, BUT AS YOUR KING.
FLINCH!

ACCORDING TO OUR NEW ROYAL TUTOR'S REPORTS TO ME...
...ONLY BRUNO AND KAI RECEIVED HIGH MARKS ON THE COMPETENCY TEST.
BRUNO, YOUR ACADEMIC PROGRESS IS FLAWLESS, BUT REMEMBER THAT A TRUE LEADER MUST BE ABLE TO THINK FLEXIBLY.
Y-YES, YOUR MAJESTY!
FWIP
KAI, I HAVE NO QUALMS WITH YOUR ACADEMIC SKILLS EITHER.
YOU SHOULD, HOWEVER, POLISH YOUR COMMUNICATION SKILLS. LEARN TO EXPRESS YOUR EMOTIONS.
GACK
LICHT. YOUR SCORE OF SIXTY REFLECTS SLOPPY WORK DUE TO ALACK OF INTEREST, AM I CORRECT?

HAAH.
THE BIGGEST PROBLEM, HOWEVER, IS LEONHARD.
YES, YOUR MAJESTY.
URK.
YOU'LL HAVE TO FIX THAT LAZINESS OF YOURS.
EH...?
HOW SHALL I SAY THIS...? I WAS TAKEN ABACK...
IN TRUTH, I DOUBTED MY EYES...
YOUR SCORE ON THE TEST WAS ONLY ONE POINT, YOUR HIGHNESS!
YOUR TEST SCORE WAS ONE!!
WHAT IS IT THAT I DID...?

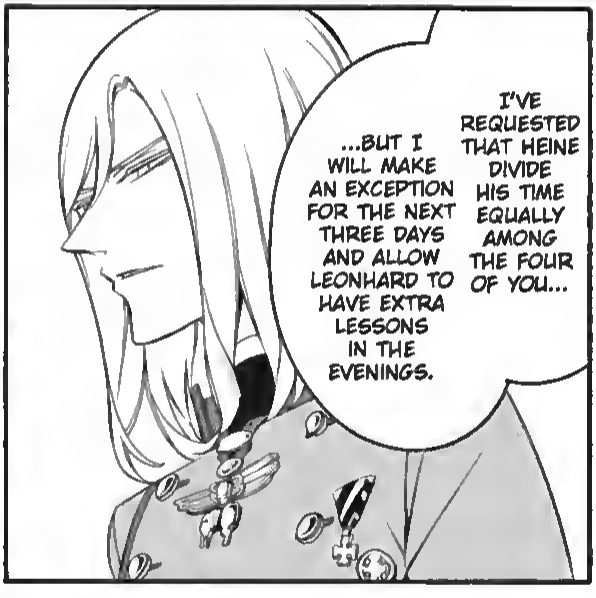
TO THINK YOU WOULD GRANT HIM ONE POINT FOR WRITING HIS NAME WHEN EVERY SINGLE ONE OF HIS ANSWERS WAS INCORRECT!
THIS GRADING METHOD GAVE ME A START AS WELL.
FINALLY, HE REMEMBERS
OH!
.....
.....
YOU WERE SPARING HIS FEELINGS, I'M SURE.
THANK YOU FOR THAT.
HOWEVER, THESE RESULTS ARE UNACCEPT-ABLE...
...FOR ONE WITH A CLAIM TO THE THRONE.
JAB

THREE DAYS FROM NOW, YOU WILL RETAKE THE COMPETENCY TEST.
AND YOU WILL MATCH LICHT'S SCORE.
IF YOU DO NOT EARN A SCORE OF AT LEAST SIXTY POINTS...
60

...LEON-
HARD...
...I WILL
STRIP YOU
OF YOUR
CLAIM
TO THE
THRONE.

!!

CAN I ASK YOU TO TAKE CARE OF THIS, HEINE?
...YES, YOUR MAJESTY.

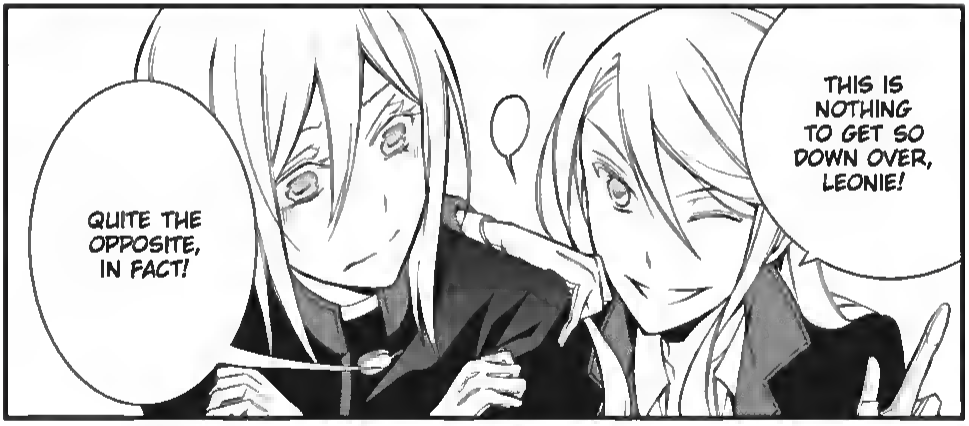

I'VE REQUESTED THAT HEINE DIVIDE HIS TIME EQUALLY AMONG THE FOUR OF YOU...
...BUT I WILL MAKE AN EXCEPTION FOR THE NEXT THREE DAYS AND ALLOW LEONHARD TO HAVE EXTRA LESSONS IN THE EVENINGS.

SWIP
F-FATHER!
ARE YOU NOT BEING TOO HARSH ON LEONHARD?

THAT IS ALL I HAVE TO SAY.
I AM SORRY, BUT I MUST ATTEND TO MY DUTIES.
WE'LL HAVE A NICE, LONG TALK ANOTHER TIME...
...MY DEAR SONS.
.....

GLOOM
I'M TOO MUCH OF A FOOL TO EVER BE KING.
MMBL MMBL
ALL BECAUSE MY BRAIN IS DEFICIENT. WHAT NOW?
INCREDIBLE... HIS DISASTER DIARIES ARE PILING UP WITH INHUMAN SPEED!
ZWOOSH
ZWOOSH
ZWOOSH
LEON-HARD...
THAT DUMB DAD! HOW COULD HE SHAME LEONHARD IN FRONT OF US?
I SHOULD HAVE EXPECTED NOTHING LESS FROM HIS MAJESTY. AS KING, HE IS UNCOMPRO-MISINGLY SEVERE, EVEN WITH HIS BELOVED SONS.

HMPH!
すとん
CROUCH
HE MUST HAVE DEEMED IT BEST TO INFORM US BECAUSE OF THE SPECIAL LESSONS.
DON'T SPEAK ILL OF FATHER.


THIS IS NOTHING TO GET SO DOWN OVER, LEONIE!
QUITE THE OPPOSITE, IN FACT!

—NO.
YOU SHOULD COUNT YOURSELF LUCKY NOT TO HAVE TO DEAL WITH IT.
THE JOB OF A KING IS A TAXING ONE, I BET.

I'M NOT UPSET ABOUT MY CLAIM TO THE THRONE.
I JUST... FOR FATHER TO BE DISAP-POINTED IN ME...
IT HURTS SO MUCH...IT'S MISERY ITSELF...
WHO KNEW THAT RECEIVING A BAD GRADE COULD BE SO...SO VEXING?
I NEVER DID...
LEONHARD...

STAB
JUST DESERTS
BUT YOU YOURSELF CHASED OFF MANY A ROYAL TUTOR. IS THIS NOT YOUR JUST DESERTS?
I AM WILLING TO LISTEN TO A REBUTTAL.
LOUNGE
だらんぬ
WHY, YOU...
TWANG
TWANG
SIGH
MY LIFE AS A PRINCE IS OVER!
IT'S TOO LATE FOR ME TO KEEP MY CLAIM TO THE THRONE ANYWAY!
AHHH, I DON'T CARE! SAY WHAT-EVER YOU LIKE!

IT IS NOT TRULY OVER...
NOT SO.
YOU CAN RISE UP STILL.
...UNTIL EVEN THAT VEXED FEELING HAS LEFT YOU.

YOU HAVE THREE DAYS YET.
I WILL DO MY UTMOST TO STEER YOU IN THE RIGHT DIREC-TION.
...B...
...BUT...
DEAREST BROTHER?
...STRICTLY SPEAKING, WE BROTHERS ARE ALSO RIVALS FOR THE THRONE.
がしっ
CLAMP

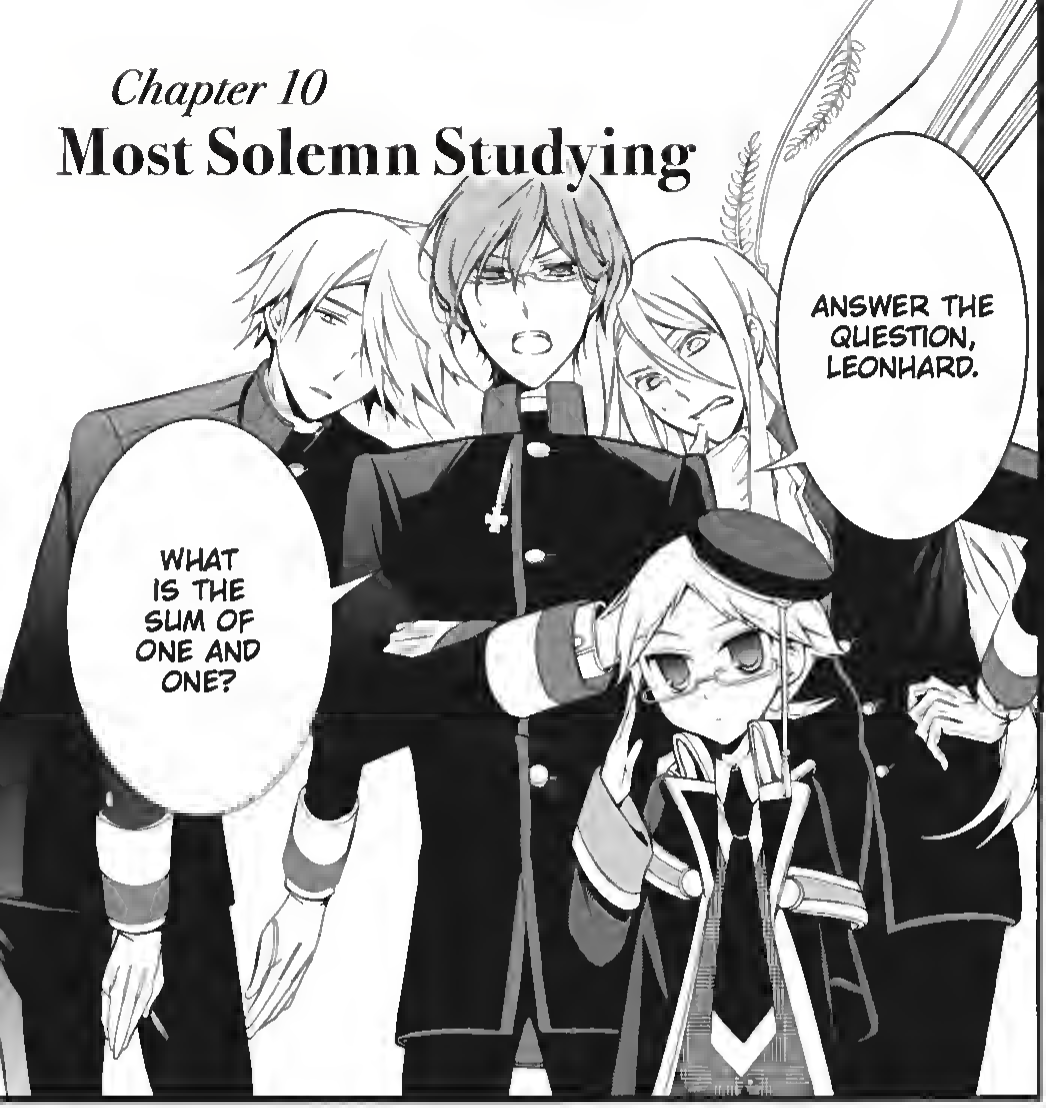
YANK
WAH...!
SO LONG AS IT IS IN MY POWER TO DO SO, I WILL LEND YOU MY STRENGTH!
BUT I CANNOT IGNORE MY DEAR BROTHER IN SUCH LOW SPIRITS!
NOTHING FOR IT, IS THERE?
I'LL LOOK HEART-LESS IF I'M THE ONLY ONE TO TURN HIS BACK.
POMF
ME TOO...
SQUEEZE
DEAR-EST BROTH-ER...
ELDER BROTH-ER...
LICHT...
.....!

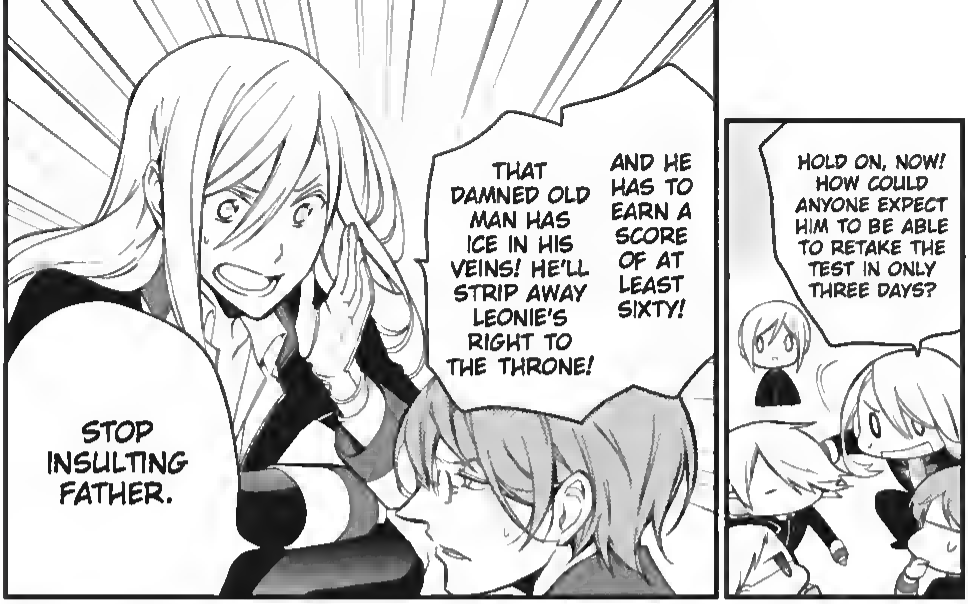
I ACCEPT THIS CHAL-LENGE!
I SWEAR TO YOU—I WILL MAKE FATHER SWALLOW HIS WORDS!
CLENCH
LEONIE, YOUR EYES ARE WATERY.
WERE YOU CRYYYING?
WH...
WIPE WIPE
TCH! YOU'RE WRONG! IT'S...IT'S A RUNNY NOSE!
WHAT? GROSS!
.....
SAY...WE MEAN TO HELP, OF COURSE...
...BUT I SENSE WE DO NOT HAVE AN ACCURATE UNDERSTANDING OF LEONHARD'S ACADEMIC LEVEL.
AH HA HA!
WHAT OF IT? I'M SURE HE AT LEAST KNOWS THE SUM OF ONE AND ONE!

HUH?
?

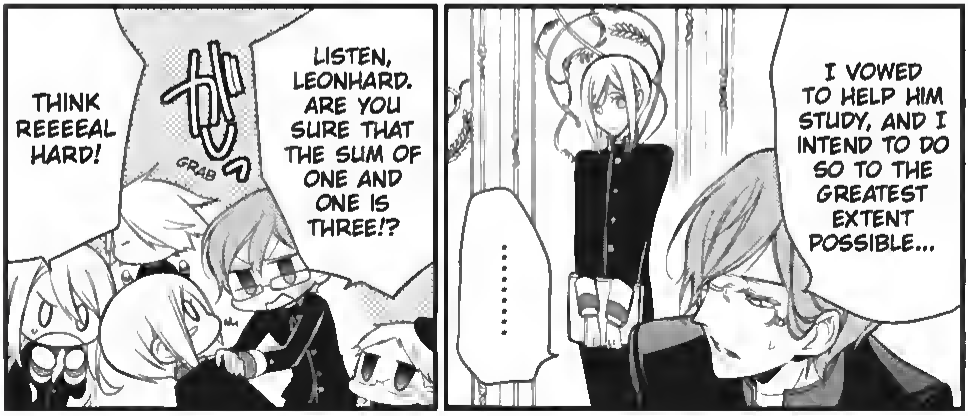
AND THUS BEGAN AN UNPRECEDENTEDLY CHAOTIC THREE DAYS.
...
WHAAAT !!?

Chapter 10
Most Solemn Studying




STOP INSULTING FATHER.
THAT DAMNED OLD MAN HAS ICE IN HIS VEINS! HE'LL STRIP AWAY LEONIE'S RIGHT TO THE THRONE!
AND HE HAS TO EARN A SCORE OF AT LEAST SIXTY!
HOLD ON, NOW! HOW COULD ANYONE EXPECT HIM TO BE ABLE TO RETAKE THE TEST IN ONLY THREE DAYS?

HOWEVER, THE GRADING IS CONCENTRATED MOST HEAVILY IN ARITHMETIC; IT WOULD BE NIGH ON IMPOSSIBLE TO PASS THE TEST WITHOUT A FAIR GRASP OF CALCULATIONS.
ALL OF THE QUESTIONS ARE BASIC.
THE TEST IS COMPRISED OF FOUR SUBJECTS: READING AND WRITING, ARITHMETIC, HISTORY, AND GEOGRAPHY.

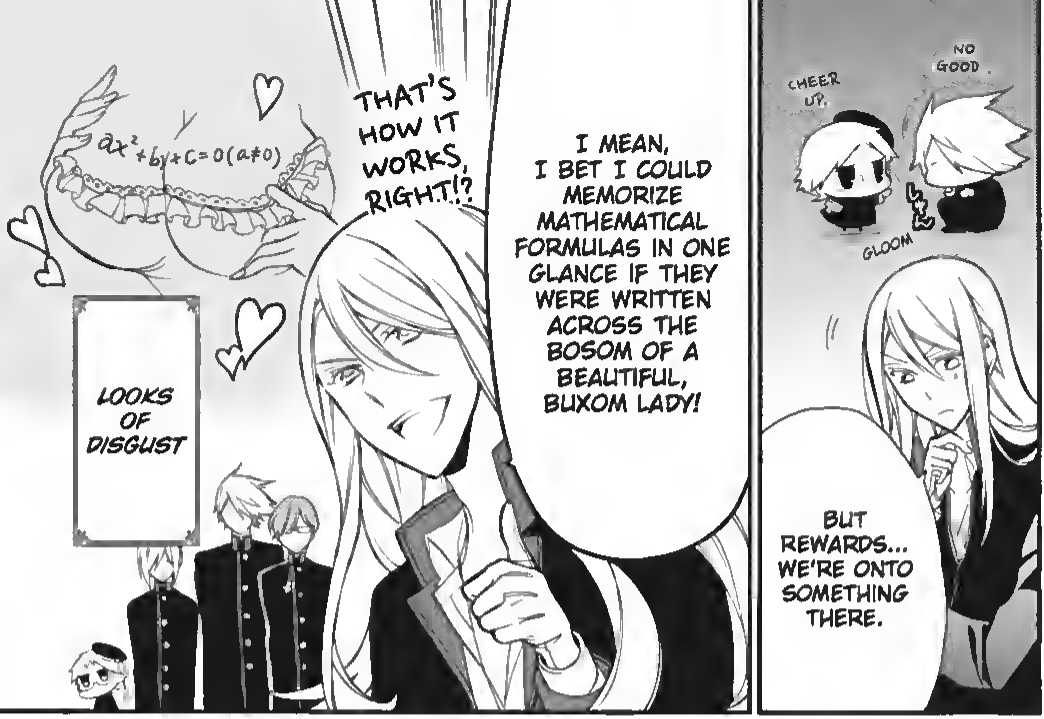

THINK REEEEAL HARD!
GRAB
LISTEN, LEONHARD. ARE YOU SURE THAT THE SUM OF ONE AND ONE IS THREE!?
.....
I VOWED TO HELP HIM STUDY, AND I INTEND TO DO SO TO THE GREATEST EXTENT POSSIBLE...

1+1
1+1…
I'VE GOT IT!
THE ANSWER IS 11!!
THAT'S NOT HOW IT WORKS.

PRINCE LEONHARD, I REGRET TO INFORM YOU THAT THE ANSWER IS NOT ELEVEN.
HUH?
1
2
WHEN YOU DO NOT KNOW A SUM, PLEASE COUNT ON YOUR FINGERS.
AHA! I REMEMBER LEARNING THAT BEFORE.
OH, I'VE GOT IT NOW!
THE ANSWER IS TWO!
YES, AT THIS RATE, A SCORE OF SIXTY IS HARDLY OUT OF REACH!
EH HEH HEH!
THIS DOES NOT INSPIRE CONFI-DENCE...

ONE, TWO, THREE, FOUR...
3
2
4
1
5
I'VE GOT THIS!
LET US MOVE ON TO SOMETHING A TRIFLE MORE DIFFICULT, THEN. WHAT IS THE SUM OF FOUR AND THREE?
I'VE RUN OUT...
...OF FINGERS...!!
MY RESPECT FOR YOU HAS REACHED NEW HEIGHTS, MASTER...
DO YOU SEE WHAT I MUST SUFFER THROUGH EVERY DAY?
OBSERVE. HE DOES NOT EVEN THINK TO USE HIS LEFT HAND.
I DON'T HAVE ENOUGH...

FORGET ABOUT THE TEST...CAN HE EVEN DRESS HIMSELF IN THE MORNING?
HOW ARE WE TO EFFECTIVELY TEACH HIM...?
SWISH
WHEN YOU'RE BAD AT SOMETHING... USE REWARDS TO MAKE IT EASIER...
LEONHARD IS A SPORTS-MAN... SO...
...HAVE HIM RUN... UNTIL HE SOLVES THE PROBLEM...?
HFF!
HFF!
THAT'S GIVING HIM A STICK, NOT A CARROT.


THAT'S HOW IT WORKS, RIGHT!?
I MEAN, I BET I COULD MEMORIZE MATHEMATICAL FORMULAS IN ONE GLANCE IF THEY WERE WRITTEN ACROSS THE BOSOM OF A BEAUTIFUL, BUXOM LADY!
LOOKS OF DISGUST
CHEER UP.
NO GOOD.
GLOOM
BUT REWARDS... WE'RE ONTO SOMETHING THERE.

I-I DARE SAY THAT'S A LARGE JUMP TO MAKE...
HE COULD LEARN TO LOVE STUDYING!
HE LIKES YOU MORE THAN TEACH.
SO WHAT IF WE HAD BRUNIE TEACH LEONIE?

THAT'S AN EVEN LARGER JUMP TO MAKE.
HUH...? WE COULD WRITE MATHEMATICAL FORMULAS ACROSS DEAREST BROTHER BRUNO'S BOSOM...?

GOOD GRIEF. I COULD NOT POSSIBLY PROVE TO BE A BETTER TEACHER THAN MASTER.
THIS IDEA COULD NOT BE MORE ABSURD...
IT COULD BE A WORTHY EXPERIMENT.
THERE'S A POSSIBILITY IT WOULD SUCCEED
PERK
LEAVE THIS TO ME, MASTER!!
MASTER IS EXPECTING GREAT THINGS FROM ME!?
...
LISTEN WELL, LEONHARD. WHEN IT COMES TO SUMS...
...IN SOME CASES, THE FIGURE WILL BE TWO DIGITS...
.....
AHEM.
LET US JUMP RIGHT TO IT, THEN.

WOOOW! HE'S SAYING ONE DIFFICULT-SOUNDING THING AFTER ANOTHER!
DEAREST BROTHER BRUNO IS A GENIUS...!
LEONHARD VISION

*NOT SAYING ANYTHING THAT DIFFICULT
...YOU START BY ADDING THE RIGHTMOST COLUMN..
WHEN YOU ADD TWO-DIGIT FIGURES TOGETHER...

PERFECTION! DEAR BROTHER, YOU HAVE MY UTMOST RESPECT!
IN OTHER WORDS, AS LONG AS YOU MEMORIZE THE SUM OF ANY TWO ONE-DIGIT NUMBERS, YOU CAN ADD TOGETHER ANY NUMBERS, NO MATTER HOW LARGE.
HUH?
ARE YOU PAYING ATTENTION, LEONHARD?
WOOOOW, HE'S SO SMART!
NOW FOR THIS PROBLEM, YOU WOULD BEGIN BY FINDING THE SUM OF FIVE AND THREE...

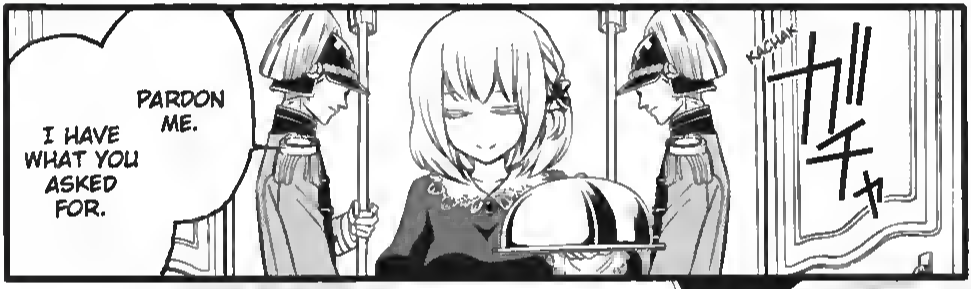
LEAP
WHAT!!?
HA?
BONG
NOOO! I CAN'T CONCENTRATE ON MY STUDIES WITH YOU AROUND!
DEAREST BROTHER IS TOO IMPRESSIVE! I CAN'T DO ANY SUMS WITH HIM IN MY HEAD!!
A BROTHERLY LOVE RESERVED FOR PRINCE BRUNO ALONE...
?
AT THIS POINT, WE'LL HAVE TO RESORT TO EXTRAORDINARY MEASURES.
KH...
TO THINK THAT HIS RESPECT WOULD BE HIS DOWNFALL...
HUH?
I DON'T UNDERSTAND, LEONHARD, BUT I'M SORRY I'VE FAILED YOU.

WE'LL MAKE THE TEST THE SAME AS THE LAST ONE!
BASICALLY, AS LONG AS HE MEMORIZES THE ANSWERS, ALL WILL BE WELL!
THE DEVIL IT WILL!!
THWACK
I WILL NOT ALLOW SUCH TRICKERY! WE CANNOT DO THAT!
JERK!
WE CERTAINLY CANNOT.
DO YOU HONESTLY BELIEVE THAT PRINCE LEONHARD COULD CORRECTLY MEMORIZE MORE THAN FIFTY ANSWERS IN THE CORRECT ORDER!?
PLEASE DO NOT UNDER-ESTIMATE THE LIMITS OF HIS BRAIN!
THAT'S WHY!?
N. ?

I CANNOT GUARANTEE ITS EFFICACY, BUT I HAVE MADE THE NECESSARY ARRANGE-MENTS.

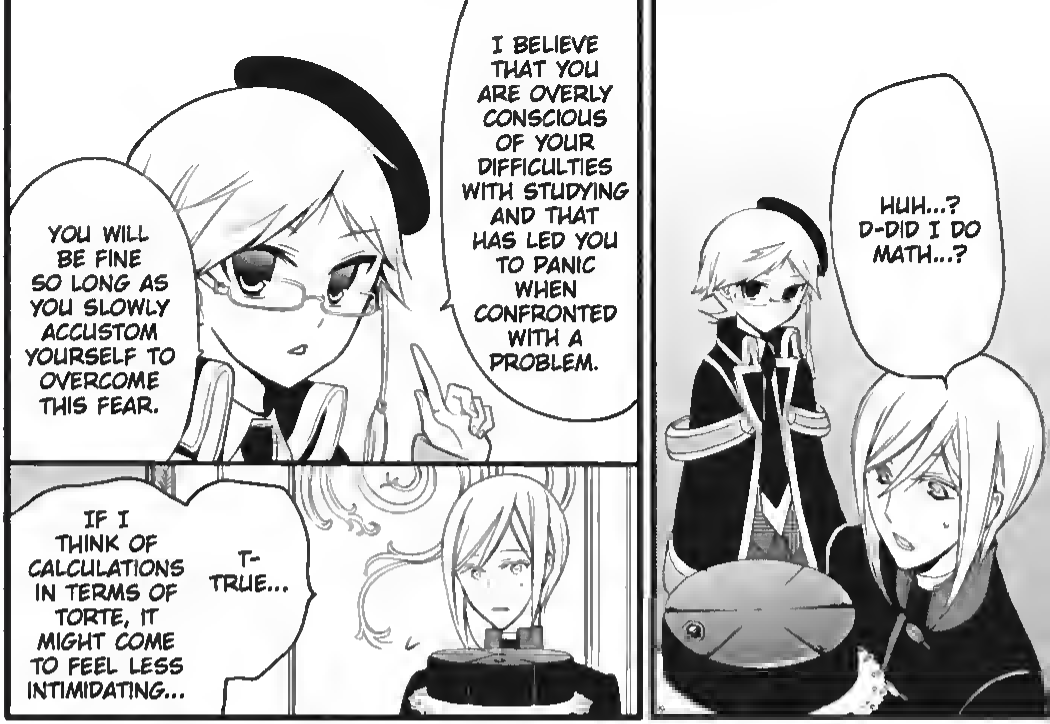
KNOCK
KNOCK

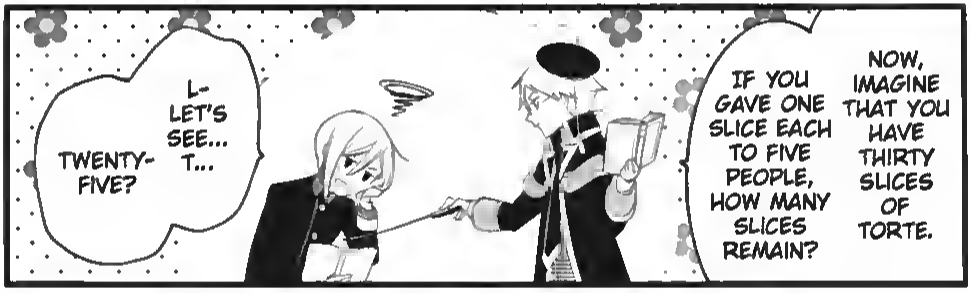
MASTER, YOU MUST KNOW OF A METHOD THAT WOULD SUIT LEONHARD! AT THIS RATE, HE IS DOOMED...
I GIVE UP!
WHAT ARE WE TO DO, THEN!?


I HAVE WHAT YOU ASKED FOR.
PARDON ME.
KACHAK
ガチャ

TORTE!
SHIMMER
PLOK

GRAWR
WHY, ANY FOOL COULD SEE THAT THERE WOULD ONLY BE ONE SLICE LEFT!!
SNATCH
THERE ARE SIX SLICES OF TORTE. IF EACH OF US TOOK ONE, HOW MANY WOULD REMAIN?
!!?
WOW!
MARVELOUS, LEONHARD!
YOU CALCULATED SIX MINUS FIVE IN AN INSTANT...!
MUTTER
MUTTER
IF THERE WERE ONLY ONE SLICE LEFT AND WE OFFERED IT TO FATHER, IT WOULD BE ALL GONE ALREADY...
I WANTED ONE MORE PIECE MYSELF... BUT...
MUTTER
WH—
LEONHARD!
ARE YOU LISTENING? HELLO?


I BELIEVE THAT YOU ARE OVERLY CONSCIOUS OF YOUR DIFFICULTIES WITH STUDYING AND THAT HAS LED YOU TO PANIC WHEN CONFRONTED WITH A PROBLEM.
YOU WILL BE FINE SO LONG AS YOU SLOWLY ACCUSTOM YOURSELF TO OVERCOME THIS FEAR.
HUH...? D-DID I DO MATH...?
T-TRUE...
IF I THINK OF CALCULATIONS IN TERMS OF TORTE, IT MIGHT COME TO FEEL LESS INTIMIDATING...


NOW, IMAGINE THAT YOU HAVE THIRTY SLICES OF TORTE.
IF YOU GAVE ONE SLICE EACH TO FIVE PEOPLE, HOW MANY SLICES REMAIN?
L-LET'S SEE... T...
TWENTY-FIVE?

GOOD. NOW, IMAGINE THAT YOU HAVE 250 SLICES OF TORTE...
WHY WOULD YOU EVER HAVE THAT MUCH TORTE —?
SHH!
WE'RE FINALLY GETTING SOME-WHERE!
KEEP YOUR THOUGHTS TO YOUR-SELF!

TWO DAYS LATER...
AND SO IT WAS THAT LEONHARD THREW HIMSELF INTO HIS STUDIES.
とりゃ
DUH-DUN
Leonhard
15
FIFTEEN POINTS ON THE PRACTICE TEST...!? TH-THAT'S AMAZING!
NOT ONCE HAVE I EVER RECEIVED SUCH A HIGH SCORE!
*OUT OF ONE HUNDRED POINTS
...

B-BLAST IT! I HAVE TO EARN SIXTY POINTS!
WHICH MEANS I STILL HAVE, ERM...
AH!
YOU HAVE NOT QUITE REACHED SIXTY POINTS, HOWEVER.

AND ATE FIFTEEN...
IF I HAD SIXTY SLICES OF TORTE...

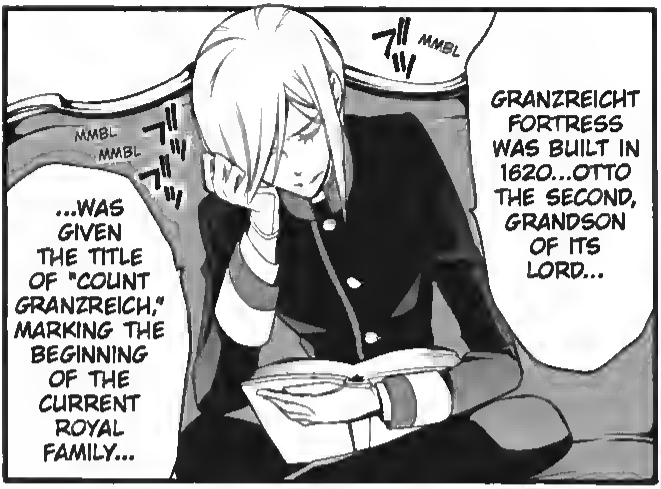
I STILL NEED TWENTY-SEVEN MORE POINTS!?
FORTY-FIVE, YOUR HIGHNESS.
WARGH!

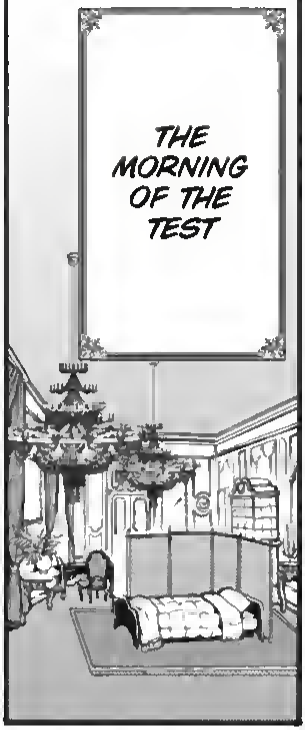
THE STRAY PRINCE
Nooo!
I NEED A HOME.
IT WOULD NOT BE QUITE SO DISASTROUS...
I'LL BE LEFT BENEATH A BRIDGE...
DISASTER DIARY
THE TEST IS TOMORROW... THIS IS IMPOSSIBLE...
FATHER WILL HATE ME...HE'LL ABANDON ME...
I CAN'T DO THIS! MY LIFE IS OVER!!
DRAT! I HATE STUDYING!
.....
IT'S TAUGHT YOU SOMETHING, HASN'T IT?
WHAT ARE YOU ON ABOUT?
WHAT COULD FIFTEEN MEASLY POINTS POSSIBLY TEACH ME?
EH?
YOUR HIGHNESS, SEEING THE RESULTS OF THIS TEST, HAVE YOU NOT COME TO A REALIZATION?

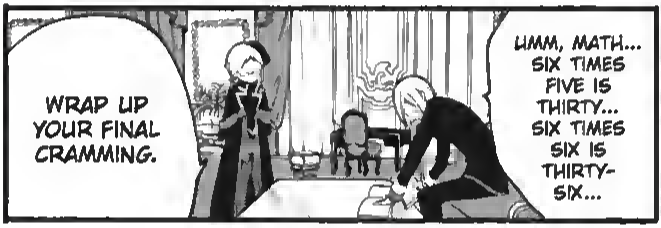
...ARE A TRUE STRUGGLE FOR YOU. YOU HAVE LEARNED THAT, HAVE YOU NOT?
THAT TESTS...
...AND STUDYING...
AH!
YES, AT THIS RATE, A SCORE OF SIXTY IS HARDLY OUT OF REACH!
BUT YOUR SCORE OF FIFTEEN MEANS THAT YOU CAN GROW FOR AN ENTIRE EIGHTY-FIVE MORE POINTS.
WHEN YOU EARN A SCORE OF ONE HUNDRED POINTS, YOU CAN NO LONGER GROW FROM THAT TEST.
NOW THAT YOU UNDERSTAND HOW LITTLE YOU KNOW, YOU ARE CAPABLE OF LEARNING.

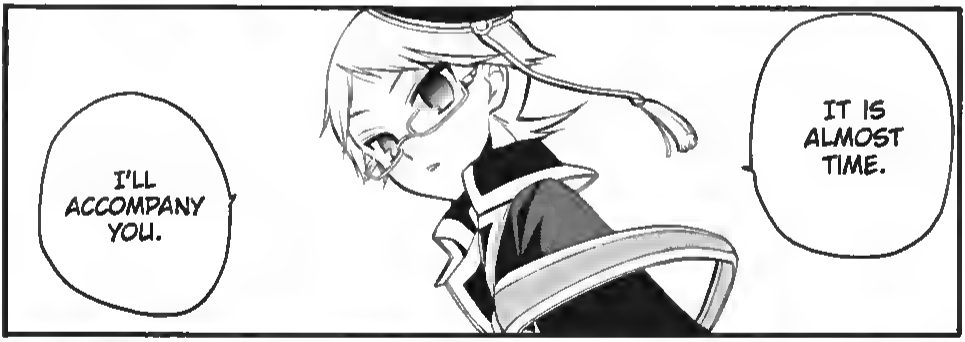
IF YOU THINK OF IT LIKE THAT, RECEIVING A BAD GRADE...
...IS ACTUALLY RATHER EXCITING, WOULDN'T YOU AGREE?
Leonhard
15

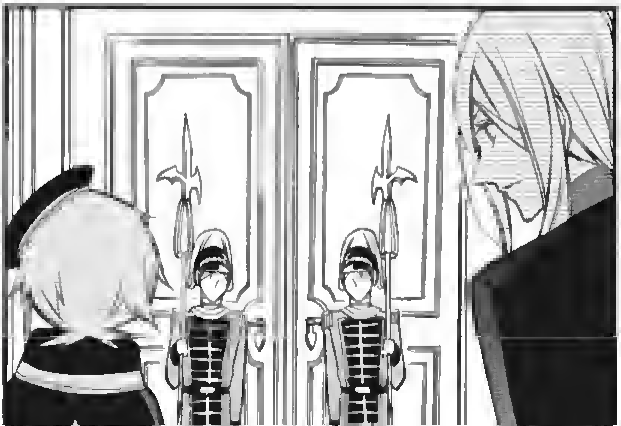
MY, MY. STUDYING, ARE WE?
.....
WHIRL
HRMPH.
YOU THINK I WOULD BE EXCITED OVER SOMETHING THIS DREADFUL?
I WAS RIGHT TO DETEST TEACHERS.
JUST YOU WATCH! I SHALL STUDY THROUGH THE NIGHT AND EARN THOSE SIXTY POINTS TOMORROW!
NOW, TEACH ME!
AS YOU WISH, BUT YOU MUST SLEEP FOR THE SAKE OF YOUR HEALTH.
I WOULD LIKE TO SLEEP TONIGHT MYSELF.
WHAT!?

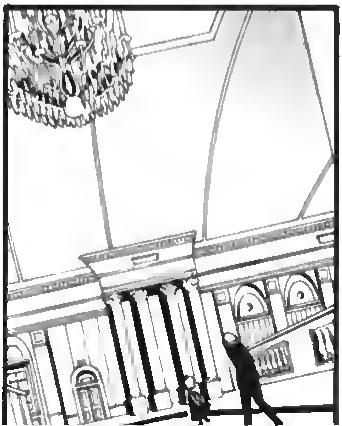

MMBL
MMBL
MMBL
GRANZREICHT FORTRESS WAS BUILT IN 1620...OTTO THE SECOND, GRANDSON OF ITS LORD...
...WAS GIVEN THE TITLE OF "COUNT GRANZREICH," MARKING THE BEGINNING OF THE CURRENT ROYAL FAMILY...

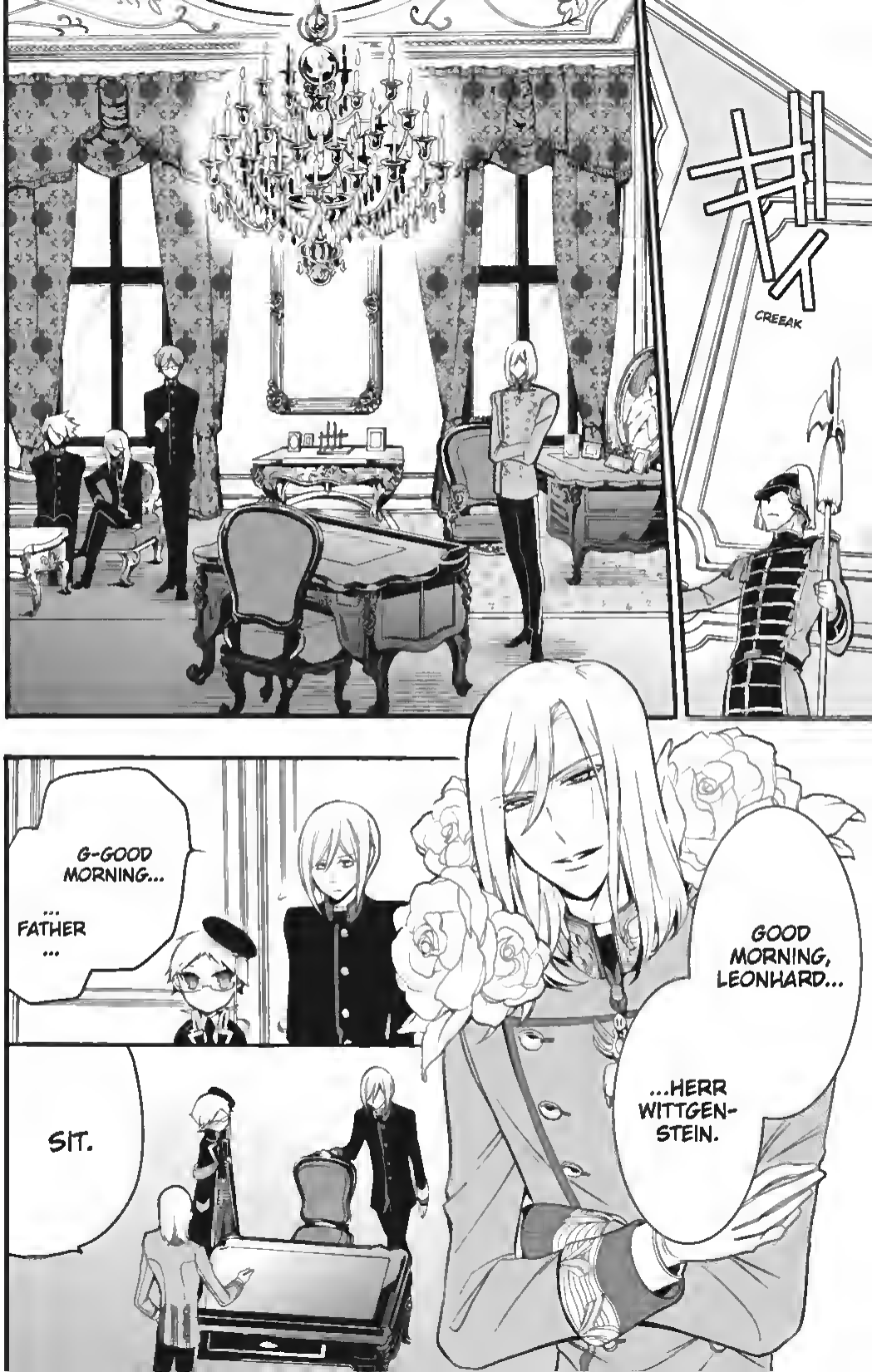

THE MORNING OF THE TEST


WRAP UP YOUR FINAL CRAMMING.
UMM, MATH... SIX TIMES FIVE IS THIRTY... SIX TIMES SIX IS THIRTY-SIX...


I'LL ACCOMPANY YOU.
IT IS ALMOST TIME.

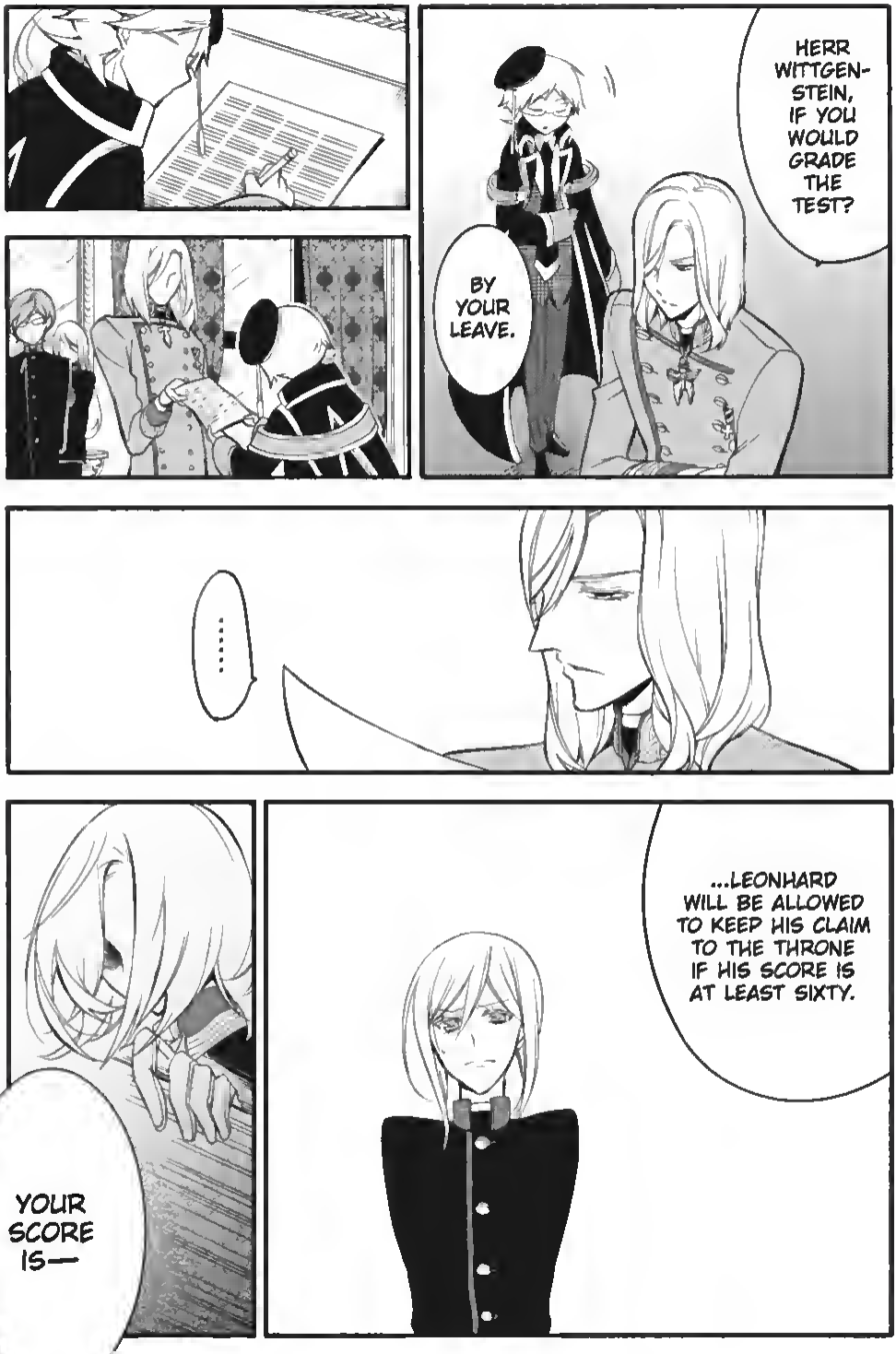





CREEAK
G-GOOD MORNING...
...FATHER...
SIT.
GOOD MORNING, LEONHARD...
...HERR WITTGEN-STEIN.

YOU CAN DO IT, LEONIE!
LISTEN YOU...!
DON'T PUT HIM UNDER ANY MORE PRESSURE!
LEONHARD... YOU'LL BE FINE...
.....
BADUM BADUM
ドキドキ
WE WILL NOW BEGIN THE TEST.
YOU HAVE SIXTY MINUTES.
BEGIN!
WHOOSH

HE IS ON HIS OWN NOW THAT THE TEST HAS BEGUN.
AS A TEACHER, ALL I CAN DO IS BELIEVE IN MY PUPIL—
YOUR TIME IS UP.
KLAK

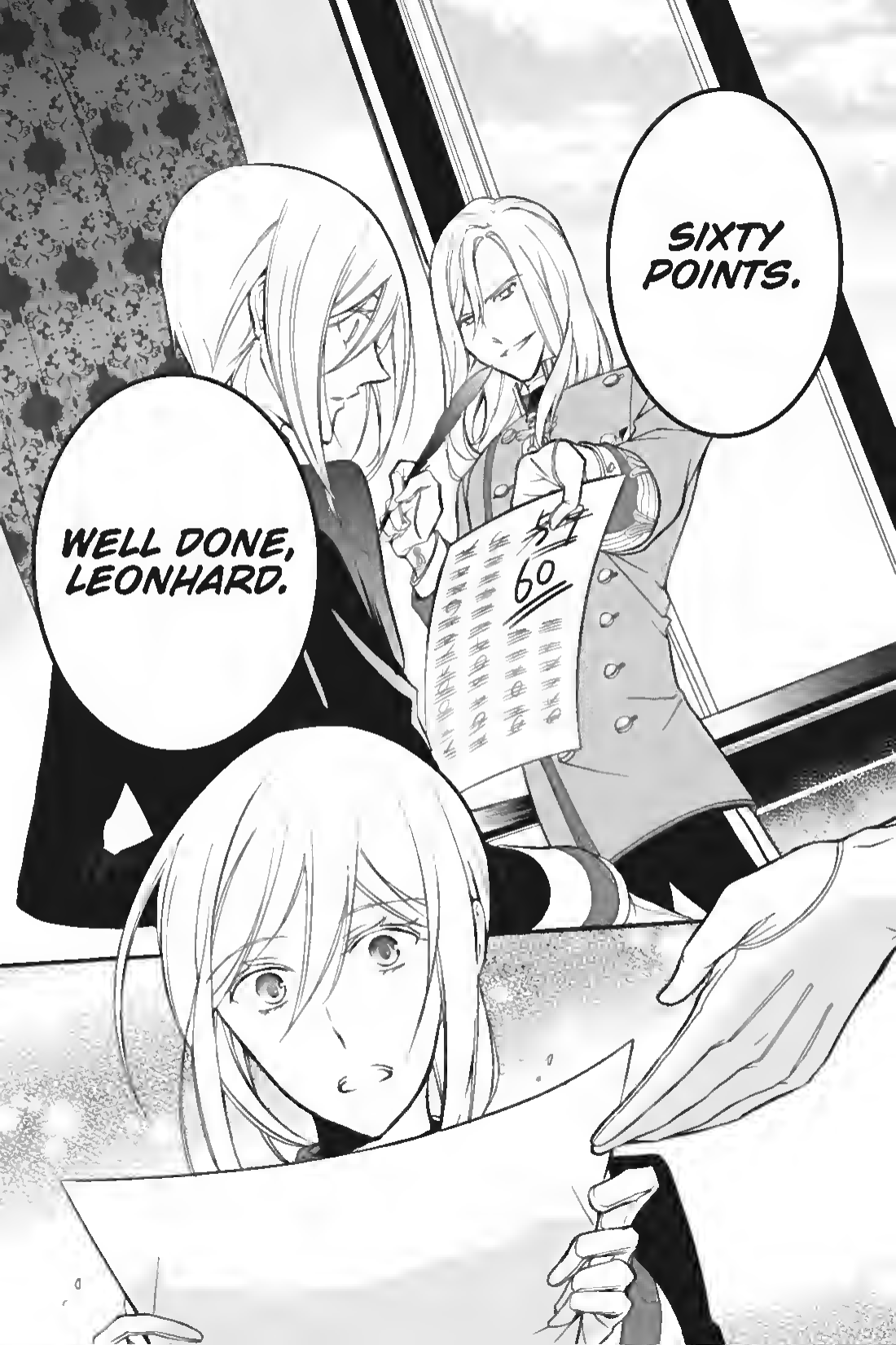

HERR WITTGEN-STEIN, IF YOU WOULD GRADE THE TEST?
BY YOUR LEAVE.
.....
...LEONHARD WILL BE ALLOWED TO KEEP HIS CLAIM TO THE THRONE IF HIS SCORE IS AT LEAST SIXTY.
YOUR SCORE IS—

FIFTY-
NINE.
59

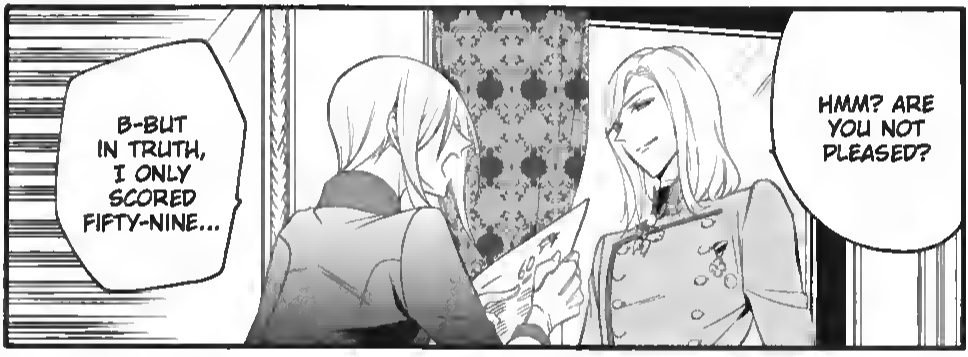
YES!
FIFTY-NINE POINTS!!
EXCELLENT! YOU ANSWERED MORE THAN HALF OF THE QUESTIONS CORRECTLY!?
FOR REAL, LEONIE!?
AH!
IF I MAY... FIFTY-NINE IS SHORT OF SIXTY.
IMPRESSIVE WORK, LEONHARD!
GOOD BOY.
AWE-SOME!
.....

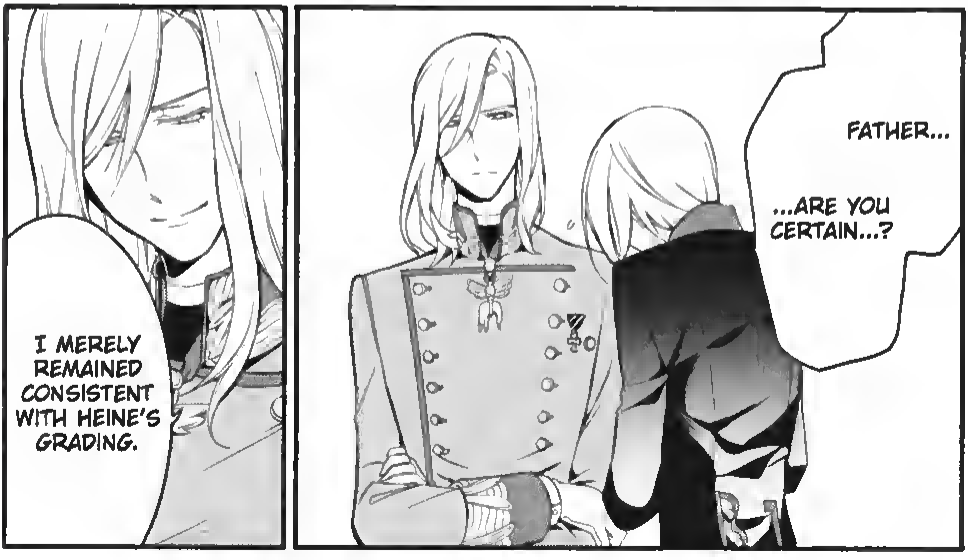
FROM FATHER'S PERSPECTIVE, I'M A FOOL, CELEBRATING AN UNACCEPTABLE GRADE...
THIS IS PRECISELY WHY HE'LL WANT TO BE RID OF ME...
.....
...YOUR MAJESTY?
IF HE CANNOT PRODUCE RESULTS...
...I CERTAINLY CANNOT ALLOW LEONHARD TO RETAIN HIS CLAIM TO THE THRONE.
.....
BUT...!

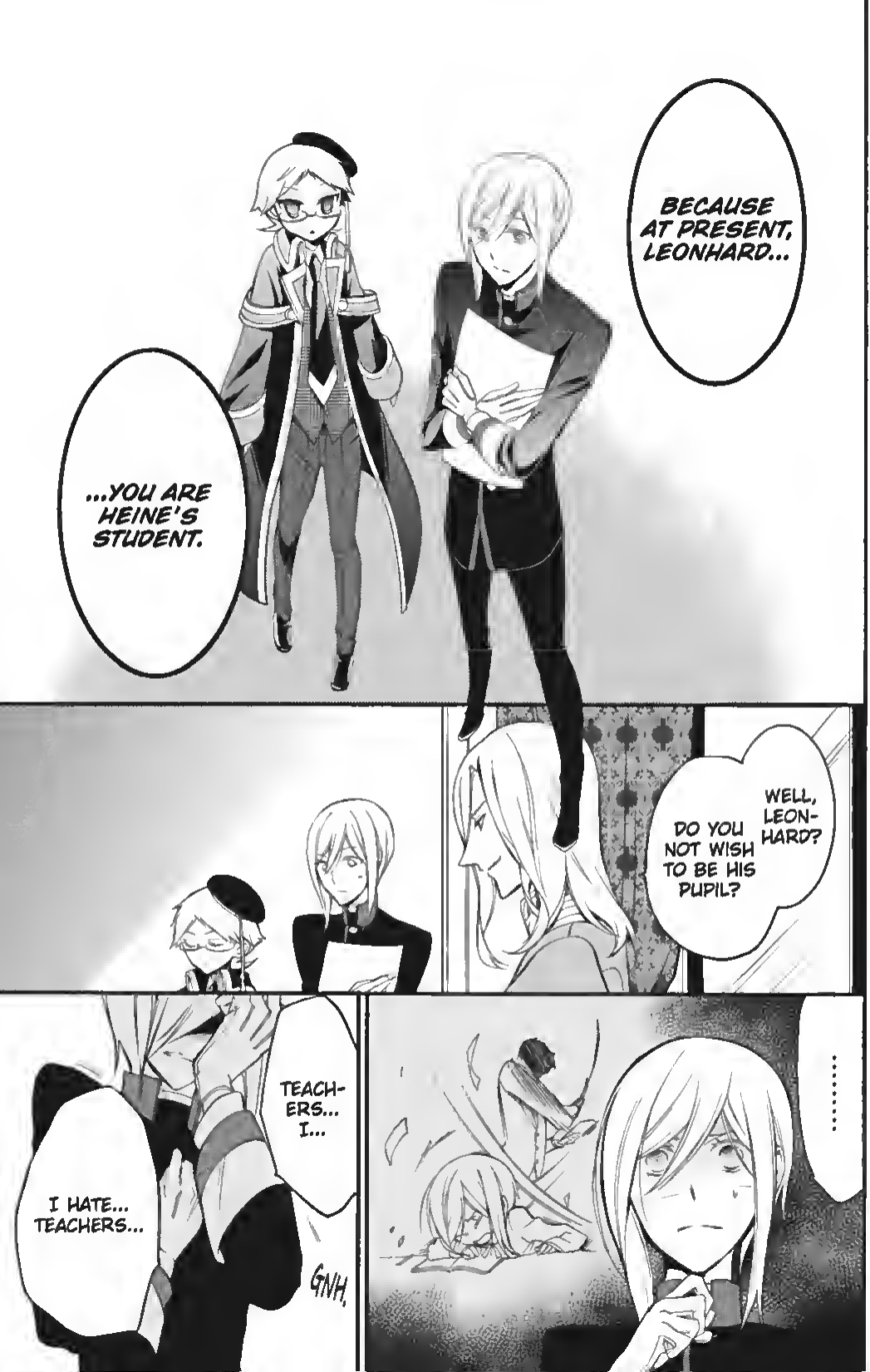
I BEG PARDON?
...THIS TEST MAY HAVE BEEN GRADED UNFAIRLY, HEINE.
HOW-EVER...
BY YOUR OWN PERSONAL METHOD OF GRADING...
...WE ADD ONE POINT FOR WRITING ONE'S NAME, DO WE NOT?
Leonhard
59
SKRICH
SKRICH
!


SIXTY POINTS.
WELL DONE, LEONHARD.
60

LEON-
HARD...!
TH-
THANK
HEAV-
ENS...
.....


HMM? ARE
YOU NOT
PLEASED?
B-BUT
IN TRUTH,
I ONLY
SCORED
FIFTY-NINE...


FATHER...
...ARE YOU
CERTAIN...?
I MERELY
REMAINED
CONSISTENT
WITH HEINE'S
GRADING.


BECAUSE AT PRESENT, LEONHARD...
...YOU ARE HEINE'S STUDENT.
WELL, LEONHARD?
DO YOU NOT WISH TO BE HIS PUPIL?
.....
TEACHERS... I...
GNH,
I HATE... TEACHERS...

...BUT...
HEINE...
...I DO NOT...
...HATE... HEINE...
.....
...I COULD NEVER HAVE GOTTEN FIFTY-NINE POINTS...
I DARE SAY...
...WITHOUT HEINE...

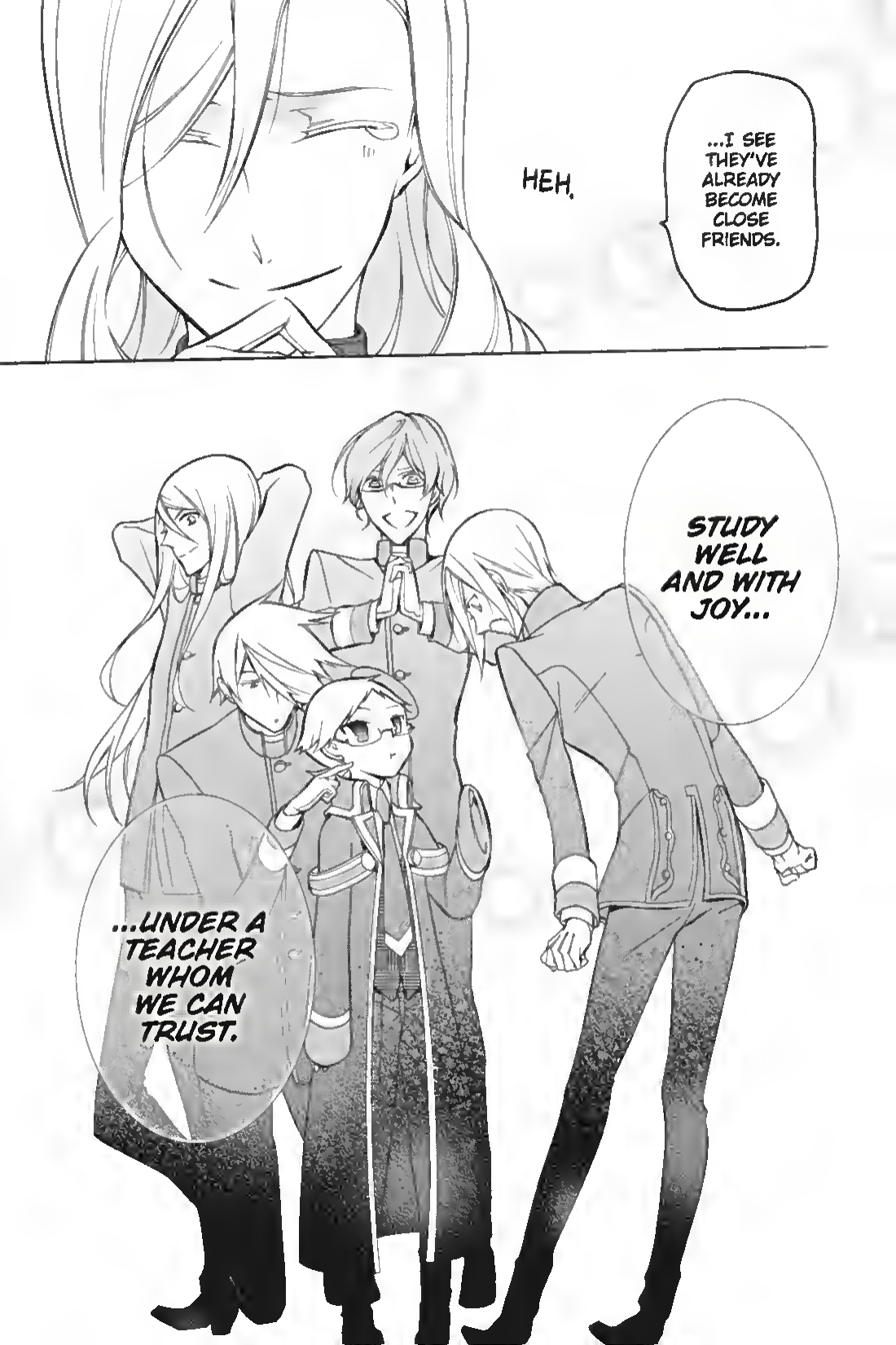
DO NOT NEGLECT YOUR STUDIES. APPROACH THEM WITH STILL MORE FERVOR...
...SO THAT YOU MAY BECOME WORTHY OF THE THRONE.
...I SHALL!
THEN YOU WOULD DO WELL TO GIVE HIS LESSONS YOUR FULLEST ATTENTION FROM THIS MOMENT FORTH
NOW, CAN YOU PROMISE THAT TO YOUR TEACHER AS WELL?
NH...
...TH... THANK... YOU...
I, ER...
I'LL... CONTINUE TO WORK HARD... SO...

PLEASE... KEEP TEACHING ME...
...PROFESSOR!
...HEINE...

IT WOULD PLEASE ME GREATLY TO BE YOUR TEACHER...
...PRINCE LEONHARD.
...CERTAINLY.
ちょこん
PINCH
WHAT'S THIS NOW?
.....
YOUR SPECIAL HANDSHAKE. I AM SIMPLY RETURNING THE FAVOR.
MOREOVER, I HAVE A FEELING YOU MAY WELL BURST INTO TEARS WERE I TO CLASP YOUR HAND FIRMLY.
WHA-
TH-THAT'S NON-SENSE...!

HONESTLY. THIS IS ALL RATHER LATE IN COMING.
HMPH!
!!?
AS A TEACHER, I PLAN FOR MY PUPILS' FUTURES NIGHT AND DAY.
YOU MAY ONLY BE PROPERLY ASKING ME TO TEACH YOU NOW, BUT I HAVE ALREADY DONE QUITE A LOT OF WORK AS YOUR TEACHER.
WH...
...WHY MUST YOU REACT SO COLDLY?
GRAB
D-DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA HOW MUCH IT TOOK FOR ME TO SAY THAT!?

I'M GLAD, LEONHARD.
NOT ONLY HAVE YOU DEFENDED YOUR CLAIM TO THE THRONE, BUT YOU'VE COME TO APPRECIATE MASTER'S GREATNESS...
SHY!? HARDLY! HE LOOKS THE SAME AS ALWAYS!!
HUMPH
NOW, NOW, LEONIE. I'M SURE TEACH IS ONLY BEING SHY.
DEAREST BROTHER, I DO NOT UNDERSTAND THE MEANING OF THOSE WORDS IN THE SLIGHTEST.
HEH HEH!
ALL LITTLE LAMBS LOST ON THE ROAD OF KNOWLEDGE SHALL BE SWADDLED BY THE GREAT DEEP KNOWN AS "MASTER"...
WHAT!?
I AM SIMPLY HONEST AT ALL TIMES.
I DO NOT THINK HE'S GREAT! I THINK HE'S MEAN!
OUCH! TEACH BURNED YOU!


...I SEE THEY'VE ALREADY BECOME CLOSE FRIENDS.
HEH.
STUDY WELL AND WITH JOY...
...UNDER A TEACHER WHOM WE CAN TRUST.

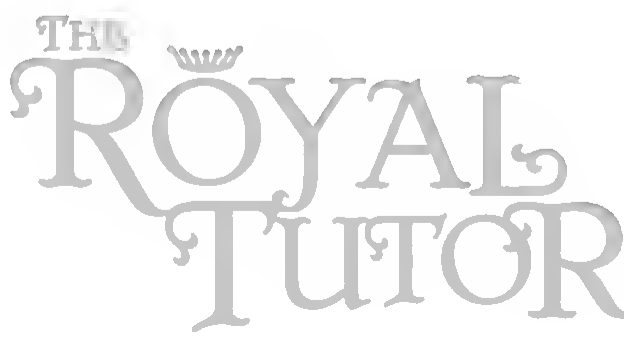
KACHAK
YOUR MAJESTY, YOU HAVE A REQUEST FOR AN AUDIENCE.
THE ALLOTTED TIME FOR AUDIENCES ENDED HOURS AGO.
SEND THEM AWAY.
KNOCK
KNOCK
IT IS THE ROYAL TUTOR, YOUR MAJESTY.
...LET HIM IN.

WHAT BRINGS YOU TO MY STUDY...
...HERR WITT-GEN-STEIN?
CLICK
I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT ENJOY A BRIEF RESPITE FROM YOUR DUTIES.
A HIGHLY INAPPROPRIATE GIFT FROM A CHILD.
HEH HEH.
I GROW TIRED OF THIS JOKE OF YOURS.
POUT
おひる
YOU MUST AT LEAST LET ME JOKE...
...AFTER YOUR AWFUL LIE ABOUT NEVER HAVING MET!
IT COULD NOT BE HELPED.
POUT
ぷりっ
POUT
ぷりっ

NOW, I AM NOT ATTEMPTING TO CURRY YOUR FAVOR...
...BUT I DID BRING A BOTTLE OF YOUR MAJESTY'S FAVORITE: WHITE WINE FROM NIEDER-GRANZREICH.
IT HAS BEEN TOO LONG SINCE WE LAST DRANK INTO THE NIGHT...
...VIKTOR.

PROST!
CLINK
チン
HAD YOU NOT DONE SO...
...I AM SURE HE WOULD NOT HAVE BROUGHT EFFORT TO HIS STUDIES.
THANK YOU...
...FOR ISSUING PRINCE LEONHARD AN ULTIMATUM.
.....
EVERYTHING I DO IS TO MAKE MY CHILDREN HAPPY...
...AND TO BUILD A FUTURE FOR OUR COUNTRY.
THAT IS ALL I WISH FOR.

YES.
I AM WELL AWARE.
AFTER ALL, IT IS TO GRANT THAT WISH...
...THAT I HAVE COME HERE.


THE
ROYAL
TUTOR

THERE. THAT CONCLUDES MY PREPARATIONS FOR TOMORROW'S LESSONS.
KNOCK KNOCK
HAAH...
ALREADY MIDNIGHT. I SUPPOSE I SHOULD GET SOME SLEEP.
ONE MOMENT.
WHO COULD THAT BE AT THIS HOUR?
...I KNOW THAT VOICE...
TEACH...
...ER...

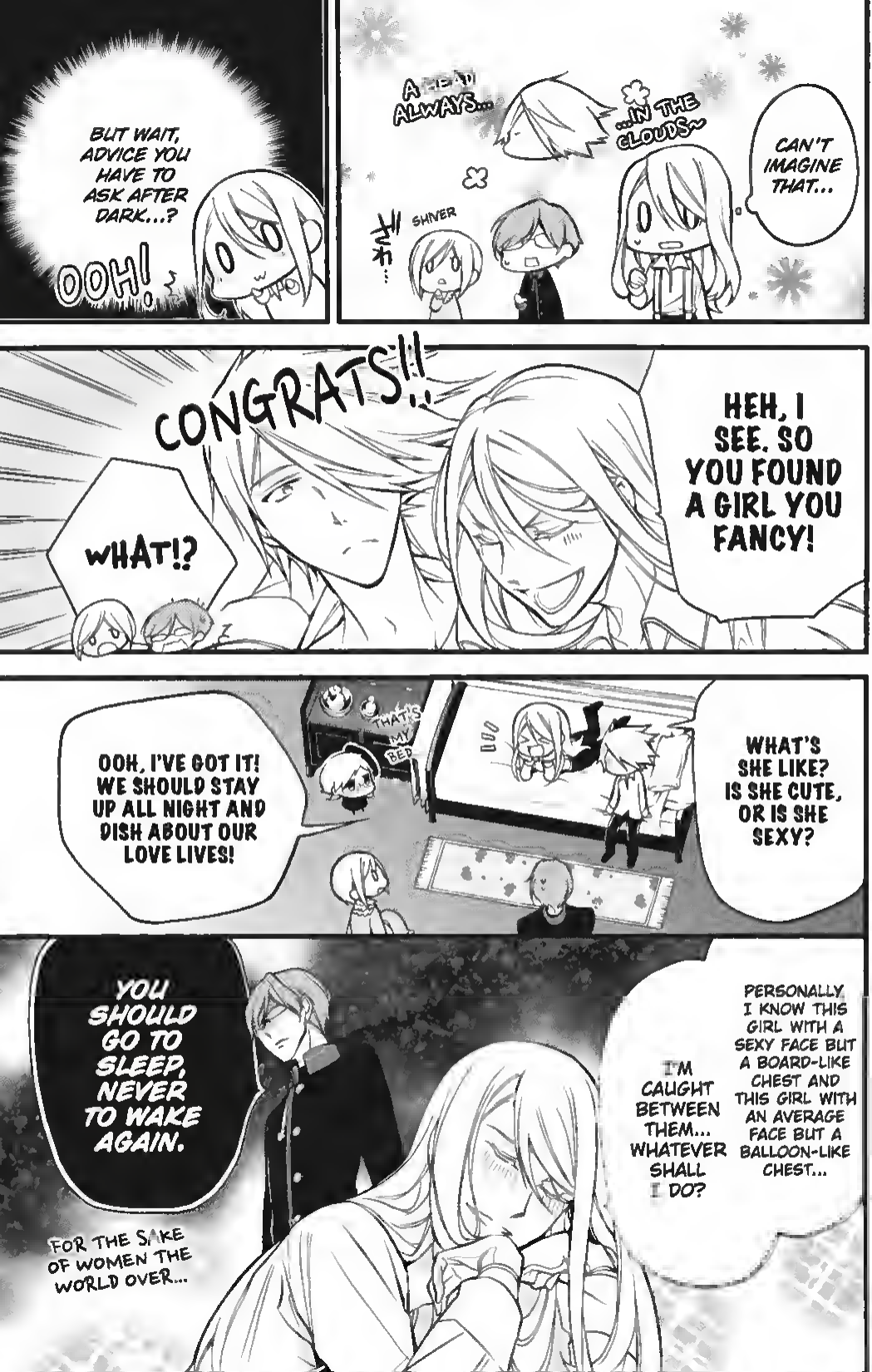
Chapter 11

A Cowardly Heart

PLEASE, HELP YOURSELF TO SOME TEA.
CLINK
カチャ
WHAT BRINGS YOU HERE SO LATE INTO THE NIGHT, PRINCE KAI?
.....
YOU SEE...

TO ME...?
TMP
TMP
TMP
YOU SEE... I NEEDED TO SPEAK WITH YOU... IN PRIVATE...
I-I JUST DREAMED THAT I WAS AN OCTOPUS!!
BAM
HEINE!
M-MASTER... ARE YOU HERE?
PEEK
URP...
WERE I SLIMY— BY GOD, I'D BE CHASED OUT OF THE PALACE!
OOZE
OOZE
SHAKE
SHAKE
SHAKE
I DON'T HAVE EIGHT LIMBS, DO I? I'M NOT COVERED IN SLIME, AM I!?

O-OH? LEONHARD... AND BROTHER KAI...
.....
I FIND MYSELF SO TROUBLED BY MY LACK OF COMPREHENSION OF THIS QUESTION THAT I SIMPLY COULDN'T SLEEP—
FORGIVE ME FOR INTRUDING IN THE NIGHT.
I APOLOGIZE, PRINCE LEONHARD, PRINCE BRUNO. I MUST ASK THAT YOU RETURN AT ANOTHER TIME—
I... CAME...TO TEACHER... FOR ADVICE...
WHAT'S TO BE DELAYED, KAINIE?
KAINIE, WANTING ADVICE!?
A THOUSAND PARDONS, YOUR HIGHNESS. IT SEEMS WE WILL HAVE TO DELAY THIS.
OOH, WHAT'S ALL THIS!? WHAT ARE ALL YOU CHUMS DOING HERE IN THE DEAD OF NIGHT!?
WAAH!


BUT WAIT, ADVICE YOU HAVE TO ASK AFTER DARK...?
OOH!
ALWAYS...
...IN THE CLOUDS~
CAN'T IMAGINE THAT...
SHIVER
CONGRATS!!
WHAT!?
HEH, I SEE. SO YOU FOUND A GIRL YOU FANCY!
OOH, I'VE GOT IT! WE SHOULD STAY UP ALL NIGHT AND DISH ABOUT OUR LOVE LIVES!
THAT'S MY BED
WHAT'S SHE LIKE? IS SHE CUTE, OR IS SHE SEXY?
YOU SHOULD GO TO SLEEP, NEVER TO WAKE AGAIN.
FOR THE SAKE OF WOMEN THE WORLD OVER...
I'M CAUGHT BETWEEN THEM... WHATEVER SHALL I DO?
PERSONALLY I KNOW THIS GIRL WITH A SEXY FACE BUT A BOARD-LIKE CHEST AND THIS GIRL WITH AN AVERAGE FACE BUT A BALLOON-LIKE CHEST...

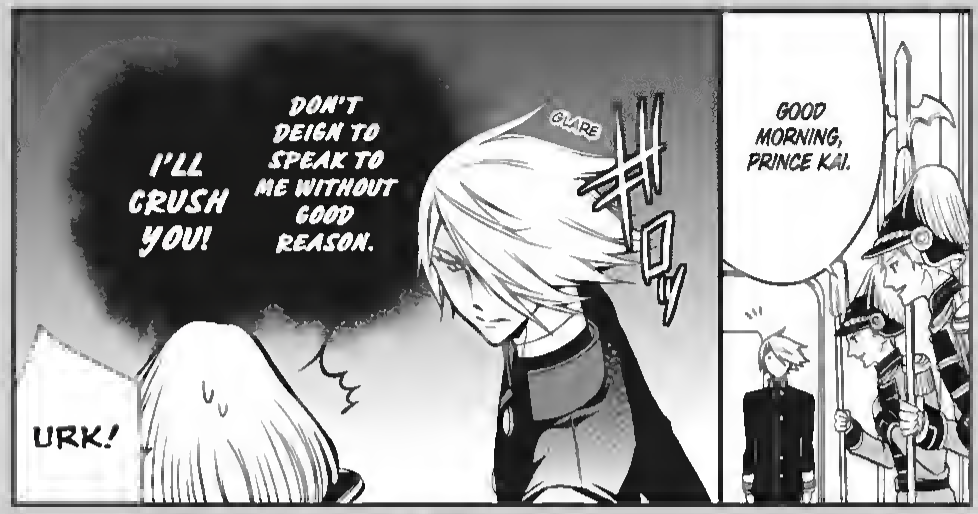
I'M A LITTLE EMBARRASSED... THAT'S ALL...DON'T NEED TO HIDE IT...
TEACHER... IT'S OKAY...
AWW!
COME NOW, YOU'VE INTERRUPTED PRINCE KAI. OFF WITH YOU!
OH!
EARLIER... WHAT FATHER SAID...
THAT I SHOULD LEARN HOW TO COMMUNICATE... MY FEELINGS...
T-TO BE ENTIRELY CANDID...
...AT TIMES, YOUR GAZE IS SO INTENSE THAT IT SCARES ME...
AS YOUR FAMILY, WE KNOW WHAT KIND OF MAN YOU ARE...
...BUT IT MAY BE DIFFICULT FOR OTHERS TO READ YOUR EXPRESSIONS.
I-I'M SORRY!
I'M SORRY, ELDER BROTHER! IT WAS A LIE!
SUCH COLD CANDIDNESS...
GLOOM

HMPH!
A KING'S GOTTA HAVE SOUL!
YEAH! BRUNIE'S THE BIGGEST PROBLEM. BIG-HEADED AND MERCILESS.
DO YOU, NOW? ARE YOU CAPABLE OF SHOWING MERCY?
I-I INTEND TO BE MORE AWARE OF THIS SHORT-COMING.
HE ADDRESSED FLAWS IN EACH OF US. YOU NEEDN'T TAKE IT SO TO HEART.
FATHER HAD POINTED WORDS FOR ME TOO. I MUST LEARN TO BE FLEXIBLE, HE SAID.
STREEEETCH
ふにょお～ん
MERCY, HAVE MERCYYY!
SMACK SMACK
つちつち
MERCY, HAVE MERCYYY!
BEING MERCIFUL DOES NOT MEAN ONE NEVER BECOMES ANGRY.
PAT PAT
なでなで
S-SEE? THAT'S NOT... MERCIFUL...

COME NOW, THAT'S WHAT MAKES ME... UNIQUE.
COMPLETELY UNREPENTANT!
DO NOT ACT AS IF FATHER DID NOT REPRIMAND YOU AS WELL.
AND ALREADY YOU'VE FORGOTTEN!
HE TOLD YOU TO REIN IN YOUR NONSENSE!
OHH, THAT?

I TURN UP...
...MY NOSE AT YOU!
OF THE FOUR OF US, ONLY I WAS NOT CRITICIZED ON THE GROUNDS OF MY CHARACTER!
WHICH IS TO SAY, ONCE I CATCH UP ON MY STUDIES, I AM THE PERFECT CANDIDATE FOR KING!
HEH HEH...
BESIDES, EVEN LEONHARD...
HOW TO SAY THIS...?
YOU NOTICED, BROTHER DEAREST?

IF I MAY, IS THAT NOT MERELY BECAUSE YOUR HIGHNESS'S ACADEMICS ARE SO VERY POOR THAT ANY SHORTCOMINGS OF YOUR CHARACTER PALE IN COMPARISON?
KRIK
KRIK
AFTER ALL, YOU STRUGGLE WITH EVEN THE BASICS.
I HAVE LEARNED THAT THE MORE PRINCE LEONHARD IS BABIED, THE MORE OF A BABY HE BECOMES.
SIGH...
WOOOW, TEACH. WAY TO BE CHILDISH.
FIDGET
I'M A FAILURE
FIDGET
I MUST SAY, IT APPEARS TO ME THAT YOU EXPRESS YOURSELF IN CONVERSATION ADEQUATELY, PRINCE KAI.
...I CAN TALK TO MY FAMILY... AND TO YOU...
...BUT WANT TO TALK TO THE PALACE STAFF...
I'M ALWAYS... ONLY WATCHING...

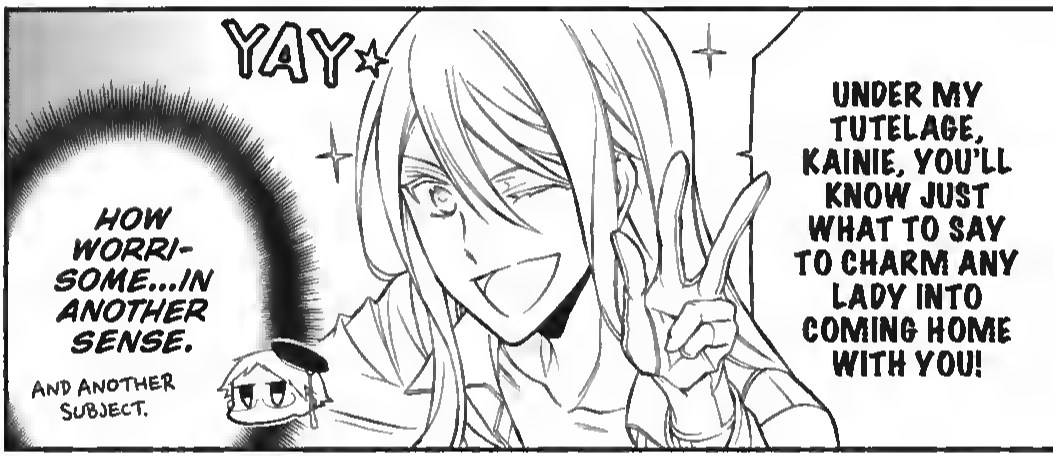

GOOD MORNING, PRINCE KAI.
GLARE
DON'T DEIGN TO SPEAK TO ME WITHOUT GOOD REASON.
I'LL CRUSH YOU!
URK!

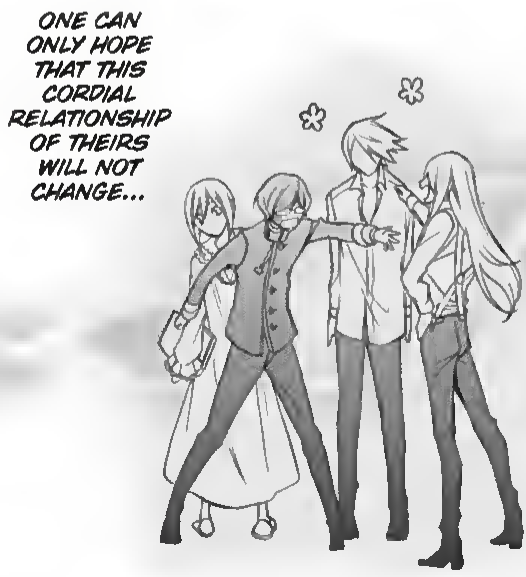
YOUR TEA, PRINCE KAI.
GLARE
YOU WOULD DARE SERVE ME LUKE-WARM TEA?
YOU'RE WORTH-LESS.
I-I'M SORRY! I-I CAN BRING YOU SOMETHING PIPING HOT!!

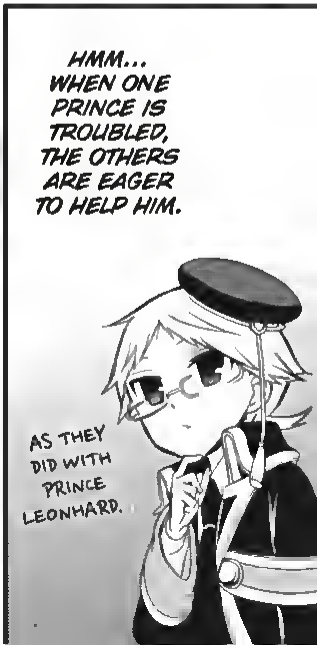
I FEEL AS THOUGH... THEY HAVE... AN INACCURATE IMPRESSION OF ME...
THE PRINCE WOULD NEVER SAY SUCH THINGS, YET THEY MATCH HIS APPEARANCE PERFECTLY.

I CAN NEVER THINK OF ANYTHING...
BUT YOUR SILENCE ADDS TO THEIR FRIGHT... A VICIOUS CYCLE INDEED.
WHEN I THINK... THEY'RE AFRAID...
...I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY...
NOD NOD
こくこく
SHALL I COACH YOU TO SPEAK TO THE PALACE STAFF COME MORNING?
WHEN LEARNING TO COMMUNICATE, A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF PRACTICE IS NECESSARY.
I AS WELL... CONSIDER IT MY THANKS FOR YOUR HELP WITH MY OWN STUDIES!
I'LL LEND YOU MY ASSISTANCE AS WELL.
I CANNOT IGNORE YOU IN YOUR TIME OF NEED.

ALL RIGHT! I WANT IN ON THIS TOO, NATURALLY!
YOU COULD START KEEPING A DIARY!
HOW WORRI-SOME.
I HAVE DIFFICULTY SOCIALIZING WITH OTHERS MYSELF, BUT I WANT TO HELP!
DISASTER DIARY


YAY☆
HOW WORRI-SOME...IN ANOTHER SENSE.
AND ANOTHER SUBJECT.
UNDER MY TUTELAGE, KAINIE, YOU'LL KNOW JUST WHAT TO SAY TO CHARM ANY LADY INTO COMING HOME WITH YOU!


ONE CAN ONLY HOPE THAT THIS CORDIAL RELATIONSHIP OF THEIRS WILL NOT CHANGE...
AS BROTHERS, THEY ARE ONE ANOTHER'S CLOSEST ALLIES... YET THEY ARE RIVALS FOR THE THRONE.


HMM... WHEN ONE PRINCE IS TROUBLED, THE OTHERS ARE EAGER TO HELP HIM.
AS THEY DID WITH PRINCE LEONHARD.

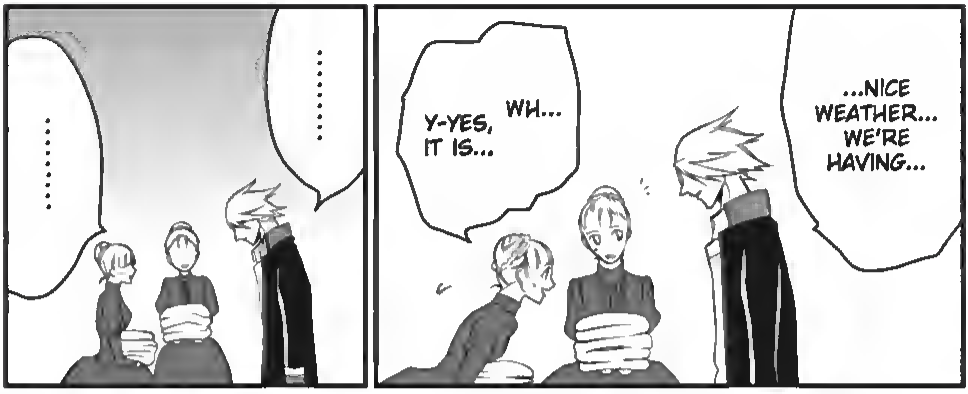
GOOD MORNING, MASTER!
YAWN!
MORN-ING...
FWIP
YES, YES, I'M ENOUGH.
THE NEXT DAY
OH? WHERE IS PRINCE LICHT?
...HE...
I'VE DECIDED! I'M GOING ON A DATE WITH THE BIG-CHESTED ONE!
BUH-BYE!
...GAVE SUCH AN EXCUSE AND WENT OFF INTO TOWN...
SO MUCH FOR LAST NIGHT'S SHOW OF UNITY...

A SMILE CAN TRAVERSE NATIONALITY AND LANGUAGE. IT IS AN UNPARALLELED METHOD OF COMMUNICATION.
A SMILE. THIS IS THE MOST IMPORTANT FACTOR.
VERY WELL. NOW, SHALL WE PULL OURSELVES UP BY THE BOOTSTRAPS AND START FROM THE BASICS?
OBSERVE.
LIKE THIS, ELDER BROTHER! THIS IS A SMILE!
FOLLOW MY EXAMPLE, PLEASE!
.....
HOW WAS THAT A SMILE!?
A WIDE SMILE ALONE IS SUFFICIENT TO LEAVE A GOOD IMPRESSION ON OTHERS.

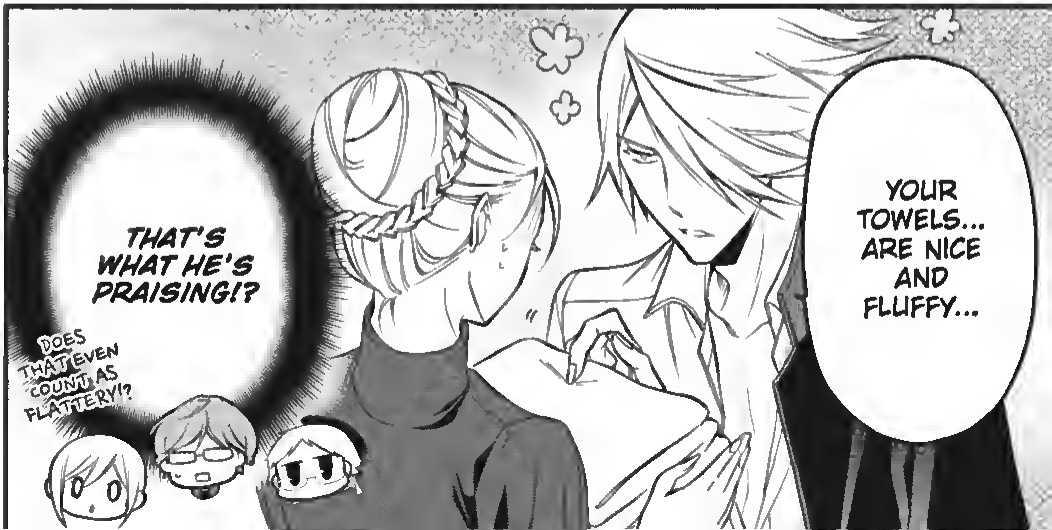
SMILE...
SMILE...
LET US BEGIN BY WALKING DOWN THE HALLWAY WITH A SMILE, THEN.
YOU ARE SMILING, YES, BUT THAT'S THE OPPOSITE KIND OF SMILE!!
ELDER BROTHER! TIME OUT!
YEEK!
?
PRINCE KAI, GOOD MOR—
AIIEE!

REMEMBER, YOU CAN CONVERSE EVEN WITHOUT A SMILE.
BUT... DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY.
I-IT IS NOT IDEAL TO FORCE A SMILE.
GLOOM
I SCARED THEM...
OH YES! LICHT GAVE ME THIS FOR YOU THIS MORNING!
I ALMOST FORGOT!
?
WATER
"FIRST, GET THEM IN YOUR POCKET WITH HARMLESS SMALL TALK ABOUT THE WEATHER.
"NEXT, ASK THEM WHAT SORT OF THINGS THEY FANCY, AND SO ON.
"WHEN THEY'VE GROWN COMFORT-ABLE, FINISH THEM OFF WITH FLATTERY!"
Kai
"DEAR KAINIE... ALLOW ME TO OFFER YOU CONVERSATION ADVICE THAT NEVER FAILS...

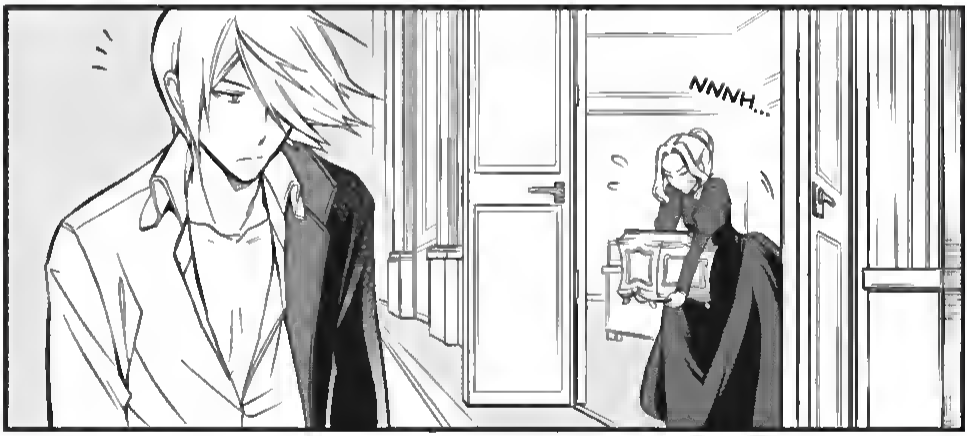
"FOR EXAMPLE, 'YOUR OUTFIT IS CUTE!♡' OR 'YOUR MAKEUP IS SO BECOMING!♡' AND SO ON AND SO FORTH.
"...LOVE, LICHT."
ISN'T THAT FLIRTING ADVICE?
THAT LIT-TLE...
I BELIEVE YOU COULD APPLY THAT ADVICE TO ORDINARY CONVERSATIONS.
WHY NOT PRACTICE WITH THOSE MAIDS?
WEATHER... FANCIES...
FLAT-TERY...
WEATHER... FANCIES... FLATTERY...
JOLT
BOOM
P-PRINCE KAI...
...

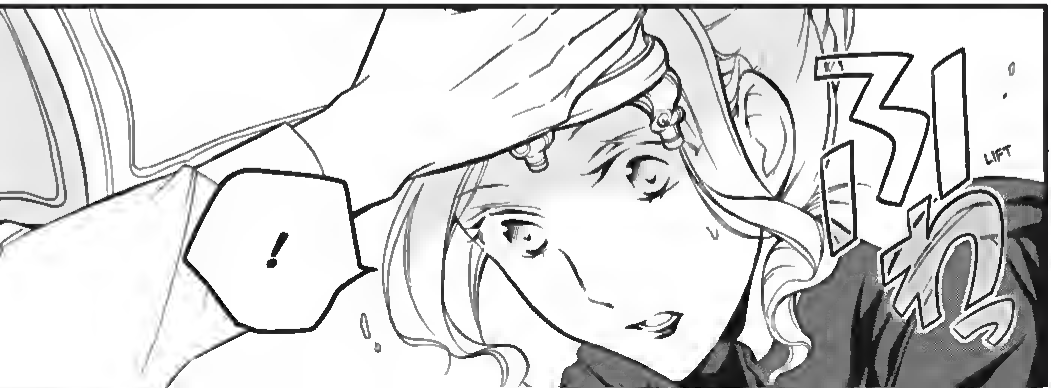

.....
.....
WH...
Y-YES, IT IS...
...NICE WEATHER... WE'RE HAVING...

NO TRAN-SITION...!?
I FANCY... FLUFFY THINGS...


THAT'S WHAT HE'S PRAISING!?
DOES THAT EVEN COUNT AS FLATTERY!?
YOUR TOWELS... ARE NICE AND FLUFFY...

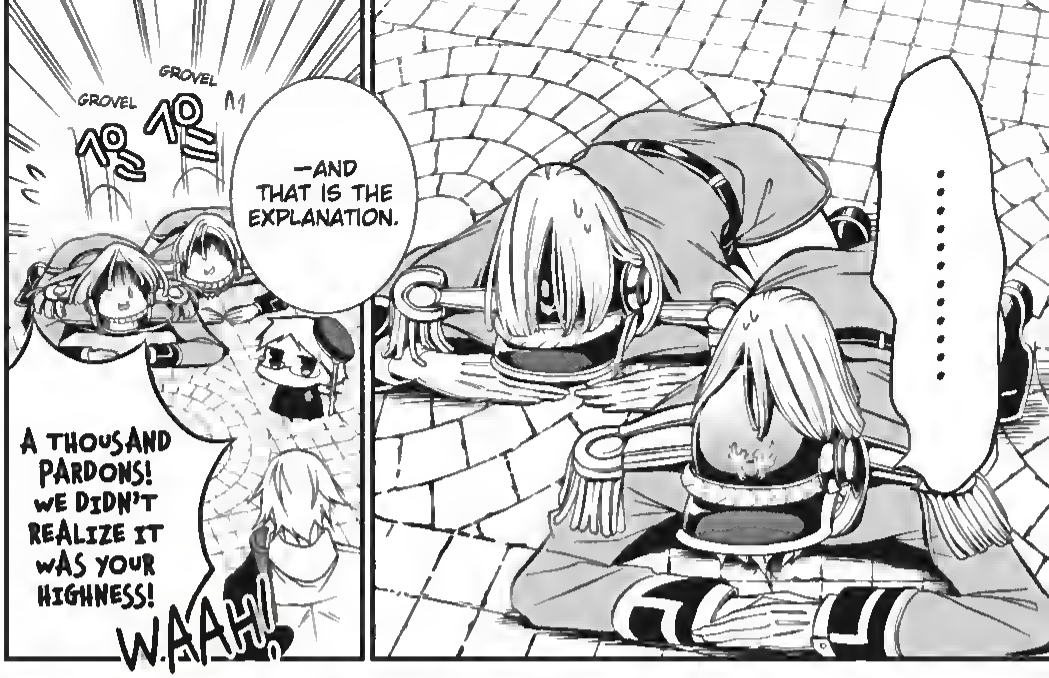
THAT DID NOT GO AS WELL AS DESIRED...
しゅん
GLOOM
E-EXCUSE US...
W-WE SHOULD BE ON OUR WAY...
...


NNNH..


!
ガシ
LIFT

OOH!
HELPING IS A NATURAL WAY TO BUILD A BRIDGE OF COMMUNI-CATION.
AN EXCELLENT IDEA, BROTHER!
I'M SO SORRY TO TROUBLE YOU, PRINCE KAI...!
TH-THANK YOU VERY MUCH!
WH...?
F-FORGIVE US, YOUR HIGH-NESS!
YOINK
ひょいっ
I'M SO SORRY, PRINCE KAI...!
YOINK
ひょいっ

MY GOD... MY OWN BROTHER IS A MONSTER OF A MAN...!
YOUR HIGH-NESS...!
YOINK
ぐぐーい
EEEE
BEK!
A-AN INTRUDER— IT MUST BE AN INTRUDER!
W-WOT'S ALL THIS NOW!?
?
GET 'IM!!
THAT WAY!!
CALLING ALL GUARDS!!


GROVEL
GROVEL
—AND THAT IS THE EXPLANATION.
A THOUSAND PARDONS! WE DIDN'T REALIZE IT WAS YOUR HIGHNESS!
W.AAH!
.....

WE'RE SO VERY SORRYYY!
.....

PAT

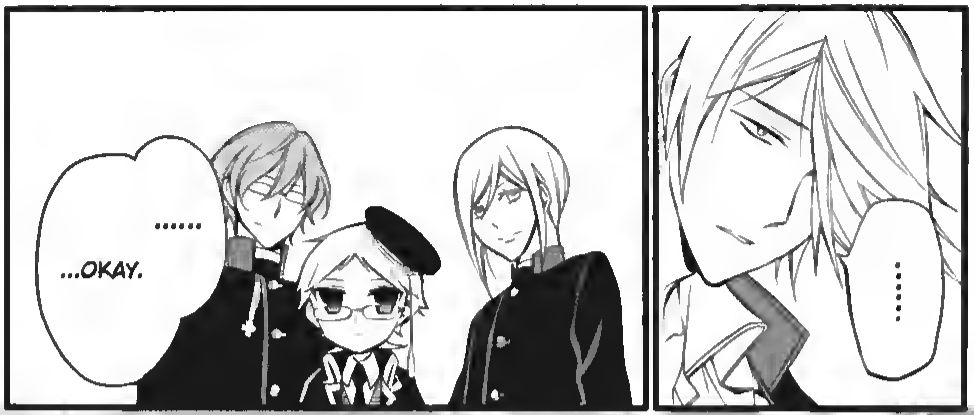
ELDER BROTH-ER?

D-DO NOT WORRY, ELDER BROTHER!
WE'LL FIND ANOTHER WAY FOR YOU TO LEARN TO SPEAK WITH THE PALACE STAFF—

BUT...
...
BROTHER
...
...IF I'M ONLY... GOING TO SCARE PEOPLE ...
...AND CAUSE TROUBLE ...
...BETTER NOT TO DO ANYTHING.
SWOOP
BEFORE YOU GIVE UP, PRINCE KAI...
...I MUST ASK YOU ONE THING.
...?

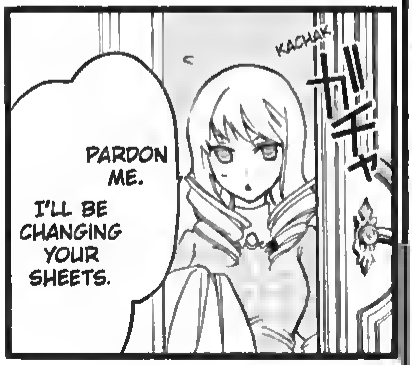
AH!
PUTTING ASIDE WHETHER YOU CAN HOLD A CONVERSATION WITH THE PALACE STAFF...
...DO YOU OFFER THEM THE PROPER SALUTATIONS, THANKS, AND SO ON?
...NO.
DON'T WANT TO SCARE THEM...
I IMAGINED AS MUCH.
WHILST OBSERVING YOUR INTERACTIONS...
...I HAD AN INKLING THAT YOU ARE PERHAPS NOT YET READY TO ATTEMPT CONVERSATION.
EVEN IF IT DOES NOT LEAD TO A CONVERSATION, NO ONE WILL THINK ILL OF YOU FOR SAYING A WORD OR TWO OF ACKNOWLEDGMENT.
TRY TO BEGIN WITH SIMPLE, POLITE EXCHANGES.

.....
...WHAT IF I SCARE THEM?
BUT...
AS EVERY PERSON HAS THEIR OWN PERSONALITY, THERE WILL BE TIMES WHEN YOU WILL HAVE TO GIVE UP.
I CAN SAY FOR CERTAIN THAT THERE ARE THOSE WHO WOULD GET ALONG WITH YOU.
BUT THE OPPOSITE IS ALSO TRUE.
WE LIVE IN A VAST KINGDOM, IN A WIDE, WIDE WORLD.
SURELY THERE ARE MILLIONS UPON MILLIONS OF PEOPLE WITH WHOM YOU ARE COMPATIBLE.
GIVING UP AFTER ONE OR TWO FAILED ATTEMPTS...
...WOULD BE QUITE A WASTE, I SHOULD THINK.



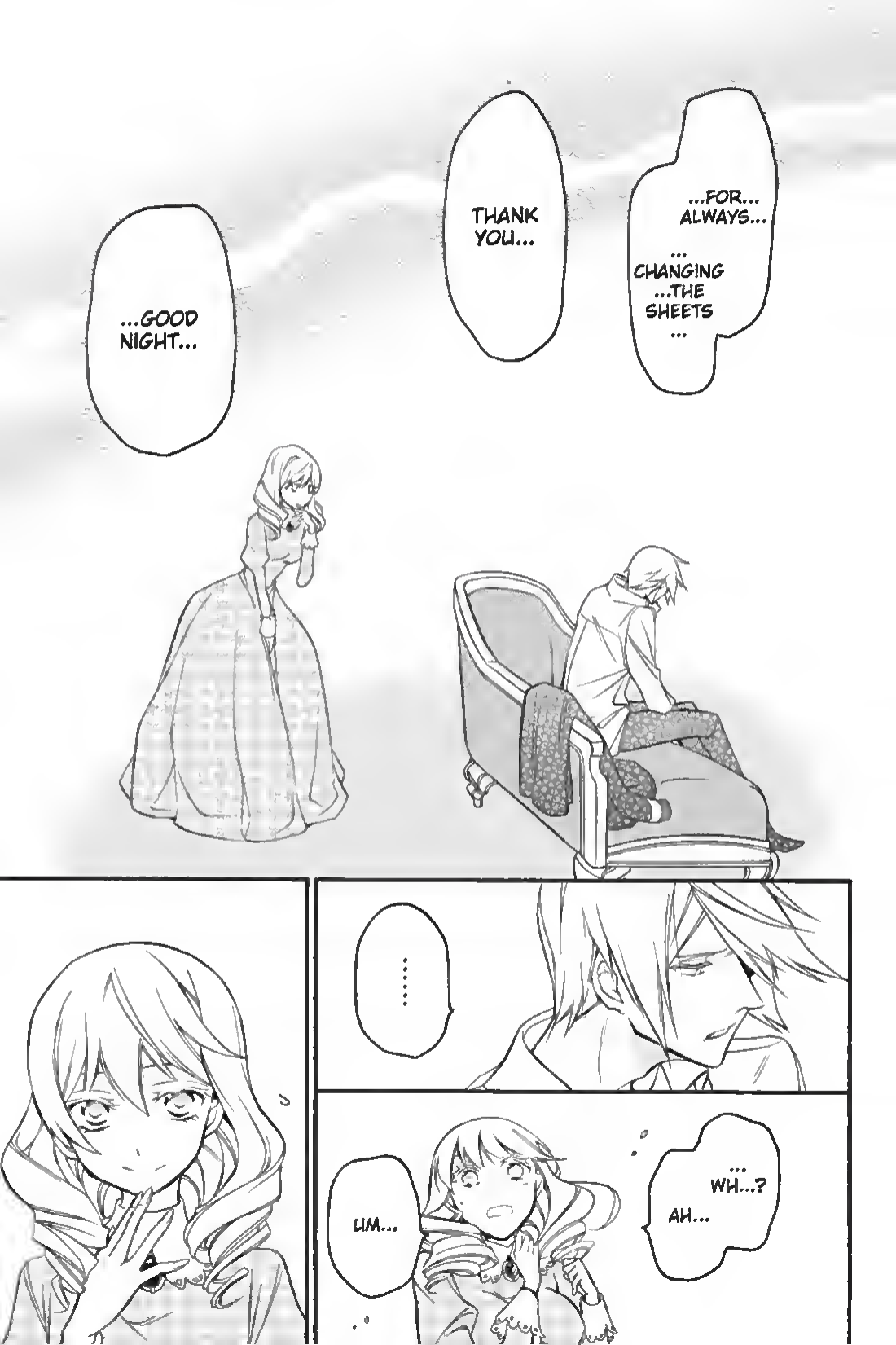
...I'LL DO AS YOU SAY...

...START SMALL...



I-I'LL BE OUT OF YOUR WAY SHORTLY!
SWISH
SWISH
CLAIRE
FLINCH
.....
I SCARED SOMEONE AGAIN...
IF I TALK TO HER... IT MIGHT SCARE HER MORE...
IT HURTS TO SEE TOO... BREAKS MY HEART...
I DON'T WANT TO PUT HER THROUGH THAT...
BUT...
"GIVING UP AFTER ONE OR TWO FAILED ATTEMPTS...
..."WOULD BE QUITE A WASTE, I SHOULD THINK."
.....
...BUT STILL, I...

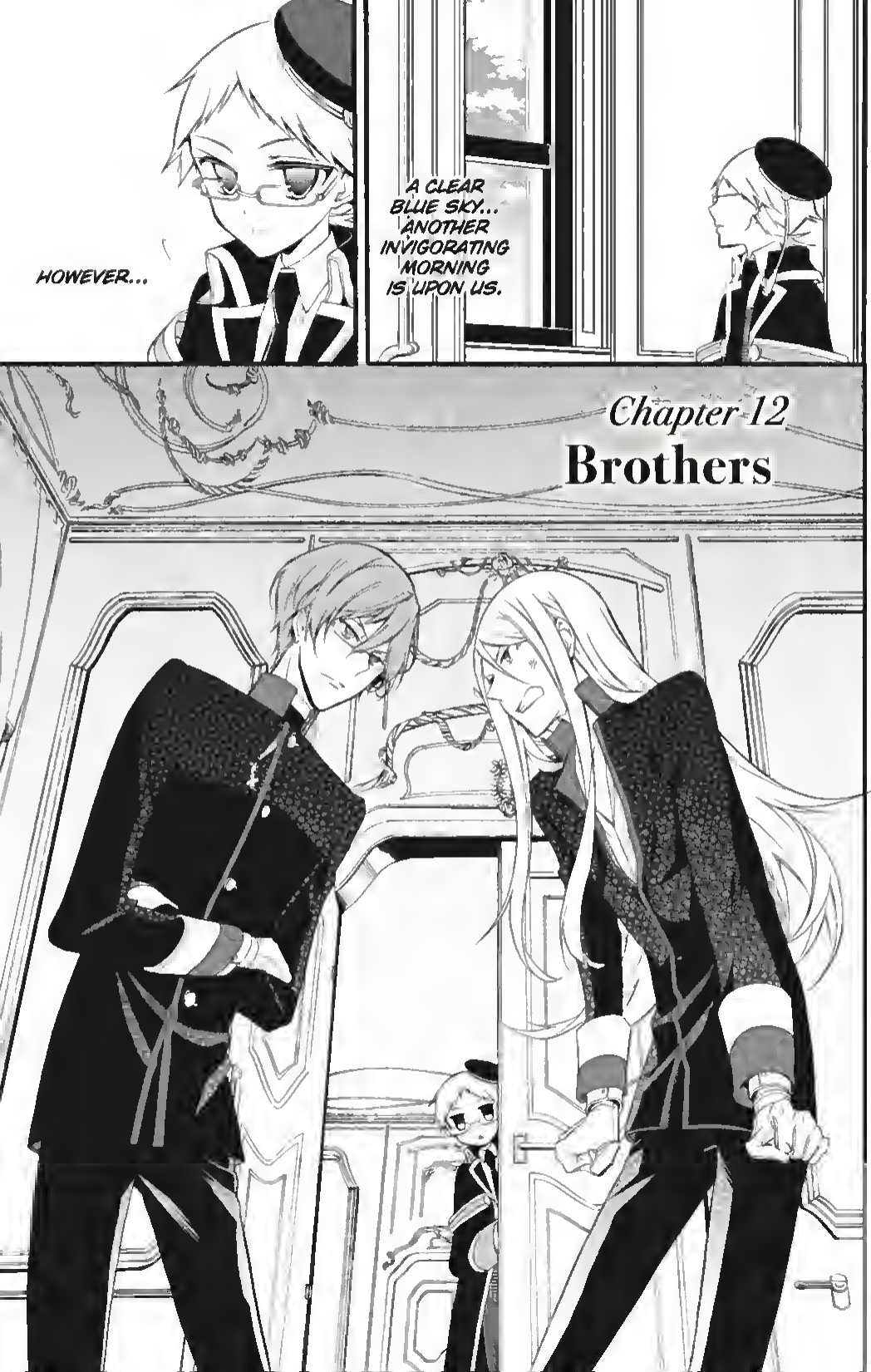
D-DID YOU SAY SOME-THING...?
E-EX-CUSE ME...
.....?
MMM!
.....
.....
...TH...
...
THANK...
...
YOU
...


...GOOD NIGHT...
THANK YOU...
...FOR... ALWAYS...
... CHANGING ...THE SHEETS ...
.....
... WH...?
AH...
UM...

SMILE
にこっ
YOU'RE QUITE WELCOME.
I'LL TAKE MY LEAVE.
DID PRINCE KAI GET THAT SCARY LOOK?
MM...NO, IT WAS FINE. HE'S NOT AS BAD AS THEY SAY!
...I DIDN'T SCARE HER...

SLAM
WHEN I TOLD HER GOOD NIGHT...
...SHE SMILED!!
STOMP
STOMP
STOMP
Y—
YOUR HIGH-NESS!?
TEACHER... I...
...DID IT... I WAS POLITE...
SLAM
HFF!
HFF!

EH!? ELDER BROTHER, YOU DID IT?
BRILLIANT! HOW DID THEY REACT? COME HERE! TELL US ALL ABOUT IT!
WELL DONE, PRINCE KAI, WELL DONE...
DID YOU, NOW ...?
ぐったり...
SLUMP
THE PRINCES' LIVELY CHAT CONTINUED UNTIL THE NEXT MORN...
TMP
TMP
TMP
WHILE IT PLEASES ME THAT MY PUPILS CONSIDER ME THIS TRUST-WORTHY ...
...I WISH THEY WERE MORE MINDFUL OF THE TIME.
SIGH...
PROFESSOR HEINE'S SLEEPLESS NIGHTS CONTINUED FOR SOME DAYS.

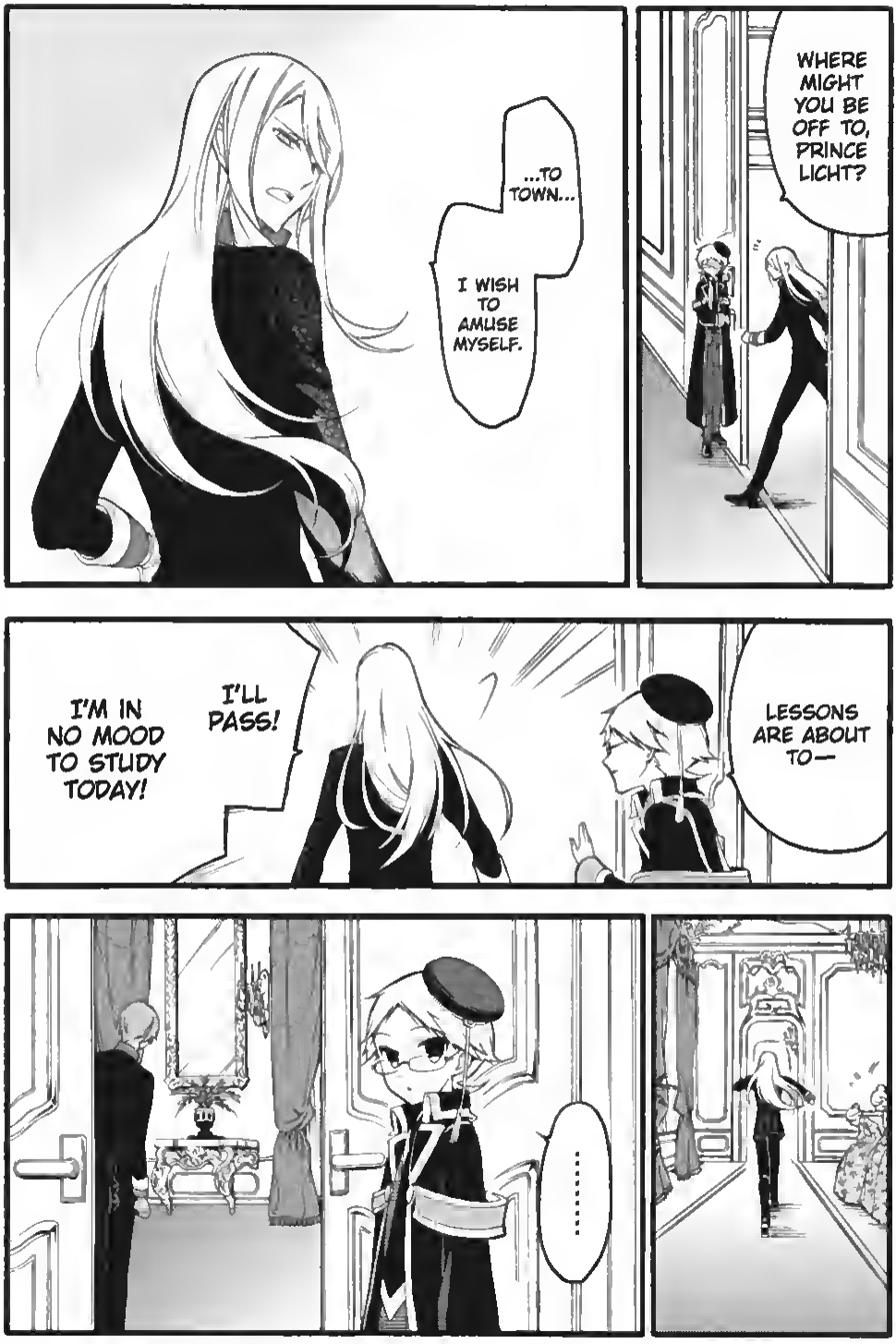

A CLEAR BLUE SKY... ANOTHER INVIGORATING MORNING IS UPON US.
HOWEVER...
Chapter 12
Brothers

YOUR UTTER LACK OF HUMOR IS DAMN TIRING!
YOU HAVE NO ROOM TO TALK...!
YOU WOULD DO WELL TO MEND THAT IRRE-SPONSIBLE ATTITUDE OF YOURS!
SNOB! BLOCKHEAD!
IT'S HIGH TIME YOU SAW SENSE, PHILANDERER!
PRINCE BRUNO AND PRINCE LICHT QUARREL MORE OFTEN THAN NOT, BUT THEY APPEAR TO BE PARTICULARLY RILED UP TODAY.
DO I REFRAIN FROM MED-DLING IN A MATTER BE-TWEEN BROTH-ERS?
OR DO I ACT IN MY CAPACITY AS TUTOR TO RESOLVE A DISPUTE BETWEEN MY PUPILS?

YOU LOOK DOWN ON ME, DON'T YOU, BRUNIE?
...I GOTTA ASK...
.....
WHERE THE DEVIL DID YOU GET THE NOTION THAT I...?
WH...
YOU SEE? YOU ALWAYS DO THIS!
YOU THINK THAT I'M FOOL ENOUGH TO BE PLACATED BY HALFHEARTED APOLOGIES!
OH, BLAST IT ALL!
VERY WELL. I NEED ONLY APOLO-GIZE, YES?
HAAH... IS THAT HOW IT APPEARS TO YOU?

I WISH THE LIKES OF YOU WASN'T MY BROTHER!

.....
WHIRL
AH!
...NH.


WHERE MIGHT YOU BE OFF TO, PRINCE LICHT?
...TO TOWN...
I WISH TO AMUSE MYSELF.
LESSONS ARE ABOUT TO—
I'LL PASS!
I'M IN NO MOOD TO STUDY TODAY!
.....

...PRINCE BRUNO.
MASTER...
WHAT IN THE WORLD HAPPENED ... BETWEEN YOUR HIGHNESS AND PRINCE LICHT?
.....
I-IT WAS NOTHING. LICHT WAS BEING FLIPPANT, AND I TOLD HIM OFF.
I-IT'S NOTHING OUT OF THE ORDINARY... MERELY A COMMON OCCURRENCE...
SO VERY... COMMON...
SLUMP
HE IS CLEARLY UNCOMMONLY DEJECTED...

COMMON THOUGH IT MAY BE, I CANNOT HELP BUT FEEL AS IF PRINCE LICHT TOOK HIS WORDS A TRIFLE TOO FAR.
.....
...THAT IS ONLY BECAUSE I DID FIRST.
I WAS AWAKE ALL THROUGH THE NIGHT, LABORING OVER A PAPER.
WHEN HE TOOK ATTITUDE WITH ME, I SNAPPED AND LOST MY TEMPER...
I SHOULD BE A PATIENT ELDER BROTHER, YET I SPARED HIM NOTHING ...
PERHAPS IT IS NO WONDER, THEN, THAT LICHT WOULD EXPRESS HIS LOATHING FOR ME...
AH!
F-FORGIVE ME, MASTER, FOR MY RAMBLING...!
.....

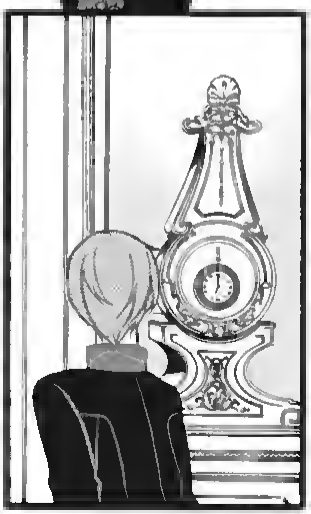
PLEASE, MASTER, DO NOT PAY THIS MATTER ANY MIND.
IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME, I MUST GO PREPARE FOR MY LESSONS.
LICHT ALWAYS STEALS BACK HOME BEFORE DINNER.
I'LL BE SURE TO OFFER HIM A PROPER APOLOGY THEN.

HOWEVER, I CANNOT SAY I ENTIRELY AGREE WITH A ONE-SIDED APOLOGY.
PRINCE BRUNO FEELS RATHER REMORSEFUL OVER THE MATTER, IT WOULD SEEM.

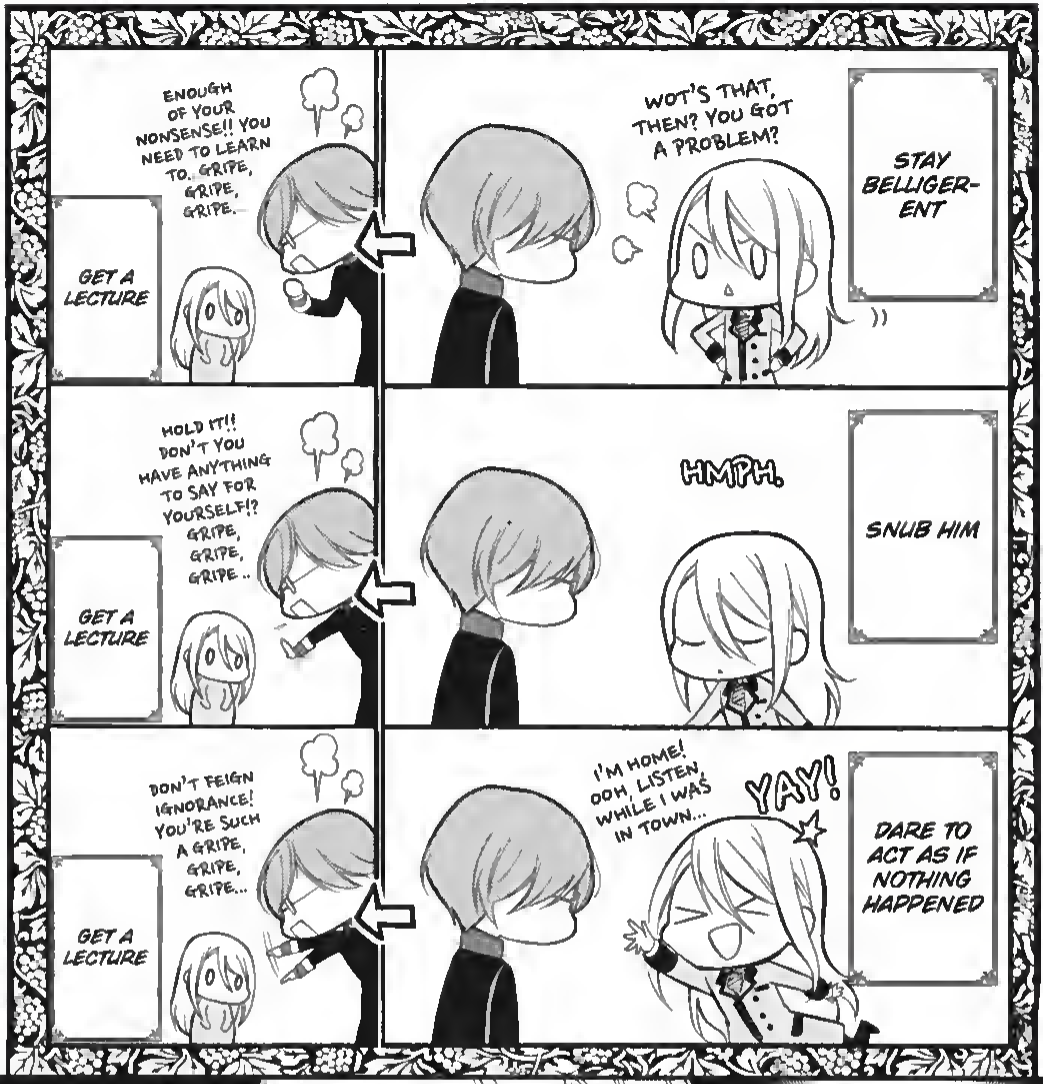
I DO HOPE PRINCE LICHT WILL SEE FIT TO GIVE AN APOLOGY AS WELL...

HMM?
LICHT, THAT LITTLE IMP! HE'S YET TO COME HOME?
...ALREADY DINNER... LATE...
OH, I'M SURE HE'S STILL GALLIVANTING ABOUT.

.....



.....
ALREADY DINNER-TIME... BOTHER IT ALL.
SNAP
IF I DALLY ANY LONGER, THE GUARDS WILL COME SEARCHING FOR ME AND CAUSE A RUCKUS...I HAVE TO GO INSIDE.
BUT WHAT SHOULD I SAY TO BRUNIE?

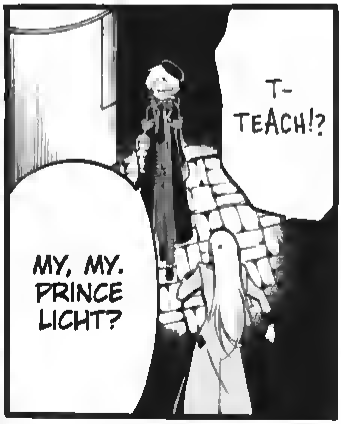

ENOUGH OF YOUR NONSENSE!! YOU NEED TO LEARN TO.. GRIPE, GRIPE, GRIPE..
GET A LECTURE
WOT'S THAT, THEN? YOU GOT A PROBLEM?
STAY BELLIGER-ENT
HOLD IT!! DON'T YOU HAVE ANYTHING TO SAY FOR YOURSELF!? GRIPE, GRIPE, GRIPE..
GET A LECTURE
HMPH.
SNUB HIM
DON'T FEIGN IGNORANCE! YOU'RE SUCH A GRIPE, GRIPE, GRIPE...
GET A LECTURE
I'M HOME! OOH, LISTEN WHILE I WAS IN TOWN...
YAY!
DARE TO ACT AS IF NOTHING HAPPENED

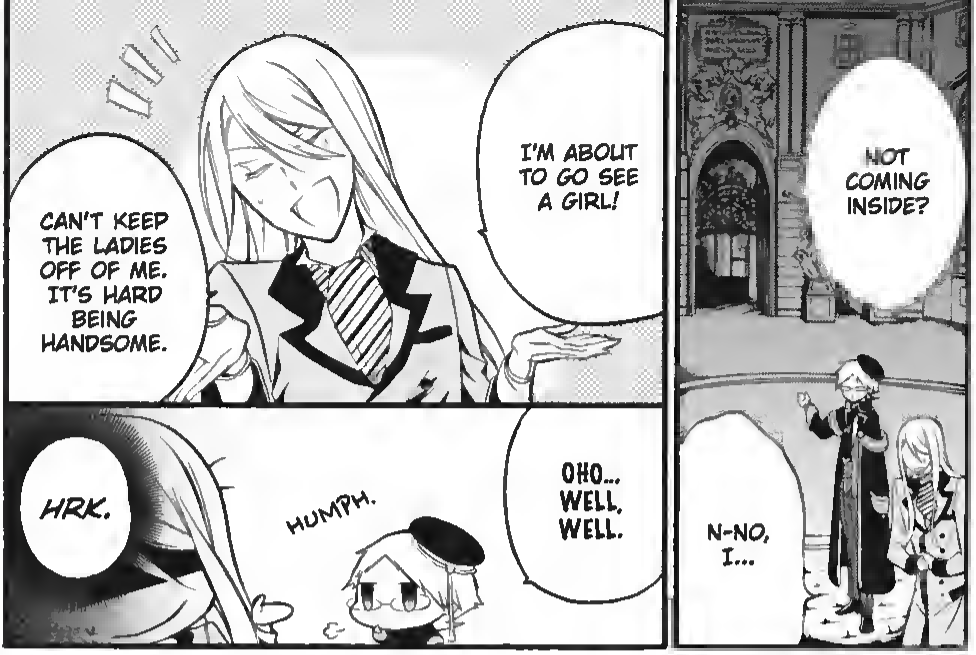
WHAT'S THIS? I SEE NO HAPPY FUTURE FOR ME...

I SUPPOSE I SHOULD JUST BE HONEST...
BLAH... BECAUSE BRUNIE NEVER LETS ANYTHING GO, I END UP DRAGGING THINGS TOO FAR IN TURN.
UGH...
.....
N-NOPE! FORGET THAT.
I COULD SEND WORD TO THE PALACE THAT I'M ALL RIGHT...
...AND FIND SOMEPLACE TO TAKE SHELTER FOR THE NIGHT...

URK!
LURCH

I VENTURED OUT TO INVESTIGATE ...
...A SUSPICIOUS FIGURE I SPIED LURKING ABOUT.
.....


T-TEACH!?
MY, MY. PRINCE LICHT?

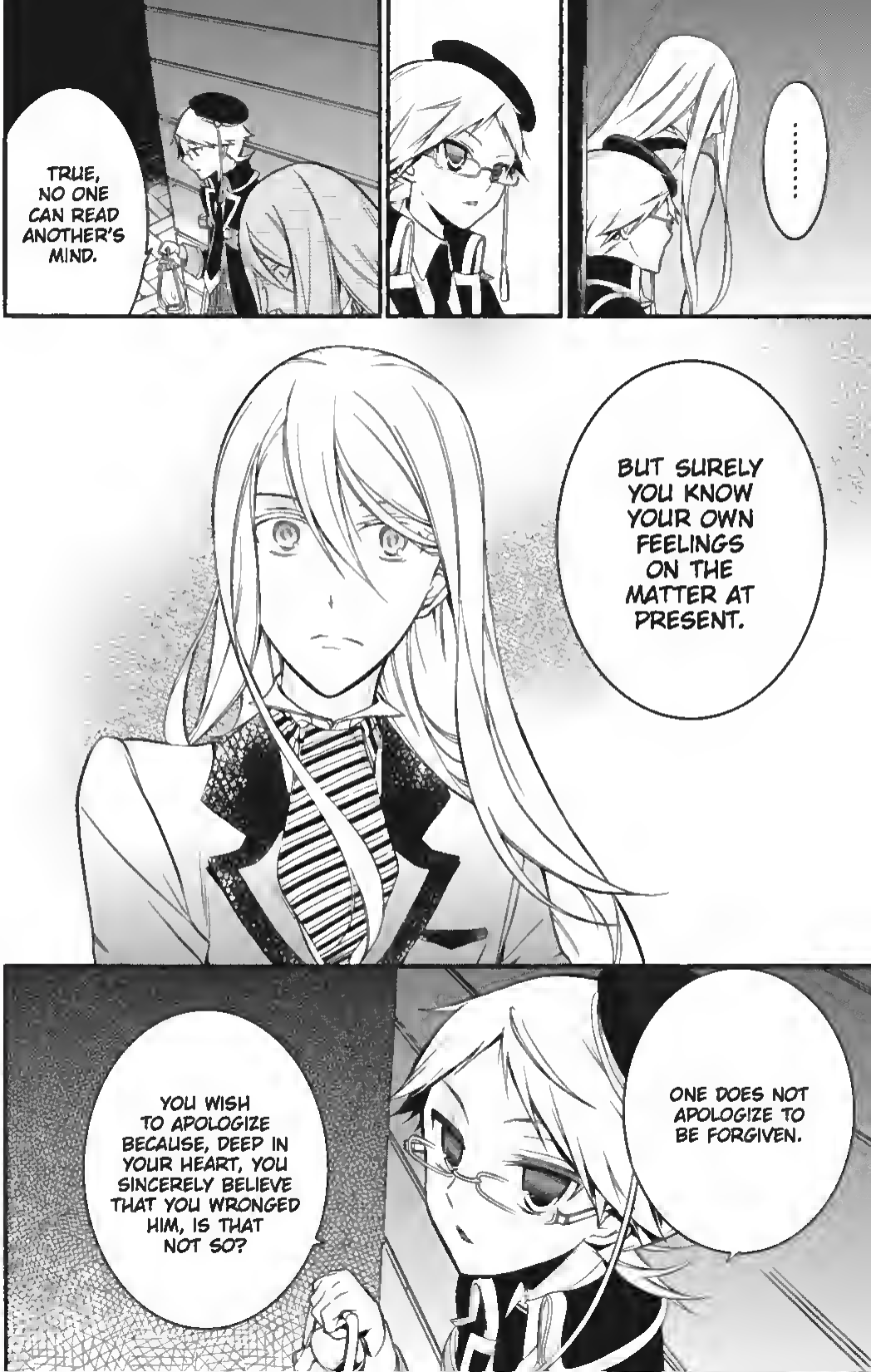

I'M ABOUT TO GO SEE A GIRL!
CAN'T KEEP THE LADIES OFF OF ME. IT'S HARD BEING HANDSOME.
OHO... WELL, WELL.
HUMPH.
HRK.
NOT COMING INSIDE?
N-NO, I...

OHO-HO... WELL, WELL.
HM- HUMPH.
NNGH... HE'S NOT ONE BIT CONVINCED ...
I'VE PLANS TO MEET WITH HER SHORTLY! HONEST!
I-IT'S TRUE, YOU KNOW!! SHE'S A SIGHT TO BEHOLD, AND THE SIZE OF HER CHEST IS UN-MATCHED!

I'M AFRAID...
...TO FACE BRUNIE...
.....
.....
ERM... I—NO... WELL...

OH? WHY MIGHT THAT BE?
.....
...I SAID SOMETHING DOWNRIGHT AWFUL TO HIM.
I DIDN'T MEAN IT, BUT I WAS IN A MOOD, AND BEFORE I KNEW IT...
.....
I SAID I WISHED HE WEREN'T MY BROTHER...
I NEVER MEANT TO SAY SUCH A THING.
—!
IF YOU FEEL THAT YOU MADE A MISTAKE, THEN AN APOLOGY IS IN ORDER.
D-DON'T SAY THAT LIKE IT'S SO SIMPLE!

YOU NEEDN'T CONCERN YOURSELF WITH THAT. I AM SURE THAT PRINCE BRUNO WOULD FORGIVE Y—
...IT FEELS AWK-WARD...
I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY TO MAKE HIM FORGIVE ME...
KH...!
NO ONE CAN KNOW FOR CERTAIN HOW ANOTHER FEELS!
WHY DO YOU SAY IT AS IF IT'S SO SIMPLE!?
PRINCE LICHT...?
.....


TRUE, NO ONE CAN READ ANOTHER'S MIND.
.....
BUT SURELY YOU KNOW YOUR OWN FEELINGS ON THE MATTER AT PRESENT.
YOU WISH TO APOLOGIZE BECAUSE, DEEP IN YOUR HEART, YOU SINCERELY BELIEVE THAT YOU WRONGED HIM, IS THAT NOT SO?
ONE DOES NOT APOLOGIZE TO BE FORGIVEN.

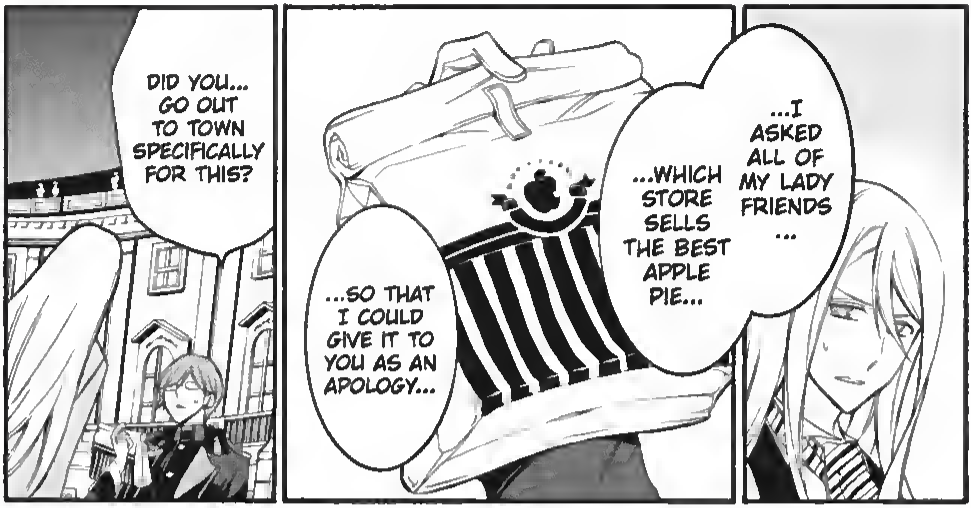
HAVE COURAGE AND BE HONEST.
ALL THAT YOU CAN HOPE IS THAT YOUR FEELINGS REACH HIM.
.....
...BE HONEST...
ZSH
ZSH
ZSH

DEAR BROTHER!
PRINCE BRUNO, YOUR HIGHNESS, PLEASE WAIT!
B-BUT...
I'M GOING INTO TOWN TO SEARCH FOR HIM.
HE'S ALWAYS BACK BY DINNER. SOMETHING ISN'T RIGHT.
KIDNAPPED BY SOME SCOUNDRELS...
...HE COULD HAVE BEEN SNATCHED INTO A CARRIAGE ON A DARK ROAD...
SURELY YOU'RE OVER-REACTING?
HE'LL BE BACK ANY MOMENT NOW.

WE CANNOT COMPLETELY RULE OUT THE POSSIBILITY THAT LICHT IS IN DANGER.
... BROTH-ER...
ZSH
THE ROYAL GUARD WILL SEE TO THE SEARCH.
PLEASE, YOUR HIGH-NESS, WAIT INSIDE THE PALACE...
I AM TO BLAME FOR LICHT LEAVING THE PALACE.
AND...I COULD NEVER STAND IDLY BY WHILST THERE'S ANY CHANCE MY YOUNGER BROTHER COULD BE IN DANGER...!
...I BEG OF YOU, ALLOW ME TO JOIN YOU.

NO MATTER HOW HE IRKS ME OR HOW OFTEN WE FIGHT...
...HE WILL ALWAYS BE MY DEAR BROTHER ...!

ZSH
YOUR ROYAL HIGH-NESS-ES.
OVER HERE.
LUNGE
LICHT!
WHERE THE DEVIL HAVE YOU BEEN?
LICHT!
?
.....
WH-WHAT IS THIS?
SHOVE


DID YOU... GO OUT TO TOWN SPECIFICALLY FOR THIS?
...SO THAT I COULD GIVE IT TO YOU AS AN APOLOGY...
...WHICH STORE SELLS THE BEST APPLE PIE...
...I ASKED ALL OF MY LADY FRIENDS ...
.....
ALL THAT YOU CAN HOPE IS THAT YOUR FEELINGS REACH HIM.
HAVE COURAGE AND BE HONEST.

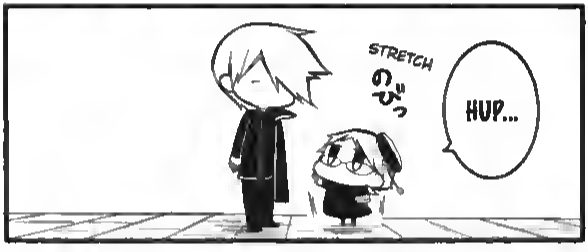
I'M SORRY...
...SORRY.
... RRY...

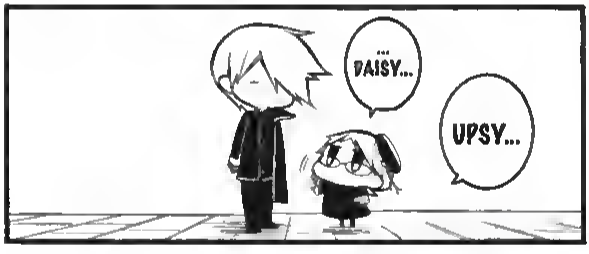
I DIDN'T MEAN TO SAY SUCH AWFUL THINGS...
I'M SO SORRY, BRUNIE...!
PAT
ぽん
YOU WON'T BE CHARMING ANY WOMEN WITH THAT FACE.
HEH.
.....

ALLOW ME TO APOLOGIZE AS WELL.
NEITHER OF US...
...WERE FAIR WITH EACH OTHER.
...BRUNIE...

L-LEONIE?
POUT
?
POUT
THAT'S HARDLY FAIR, LICHT.
I WANT A PAT ON THE HEAD FROM DEAREST BROTHER TOO!
DEAREST BROTHER, I WOULD LIKE A HEAD PAT TOO!
I AM READY!
I-I...DON'T BELIEVE I UNDERSTAND...
LEONHARD...?
YOU GET A PAT ON THE HEAD FOR CAUSING TROUBLE? YOU'RE SO INSOLENT!
HANH!?
MAKE ROOM! NOW!

BROTHER, I ABSOLUTELY CANNOT COMPREHEND WHY YOU WOULD MAKE SUCH A REQUEST!!
YOU ARE OLDER THAN ME!!
SSK
BRUNO... ME TOO...


STRETCH
のびっ
HUP...


...DAISY...
UPSY...

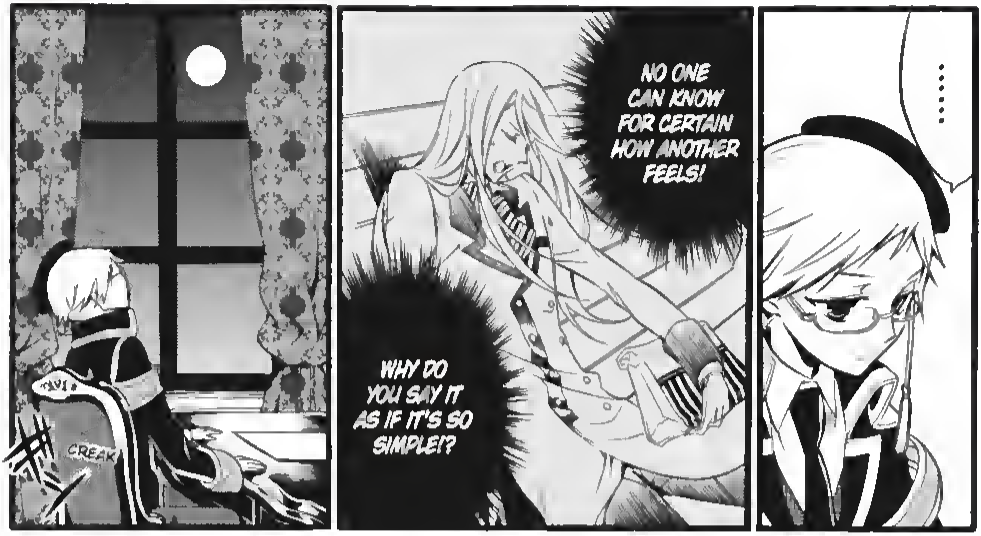
I SHALL GRANT YOU A PAT ON THE HEAD, THEN.
AS I AM YOUR ELDER.
SIGH
HEAD PAT PAT

HA-HA!
PFFT!
.....

AH-HA-HA! SO MUCH FOR THAT, TEACH!
HA HA HA!
HA HA HA HA!
AHH, HOW ABSURD! AH-HA-HA!
COME AGAIN?
PRINCE BRUNO, IS APPLE PIE A FAVORITE OF YOURS?
YOU MUST BE QUITE FOND OF IT FOR HIM TO OFFER IT UP AS AN APOLOGY.
O-OH. NO, NO... YOU MISUNDER-STAND.
YAY!
SHALL WE RETURN TO DINNER, THEN?
EVERY-ONE CAN HAVE A SLICE OF THIS APPLE PIE.

A CHILD'S QUARREL.
ACK!
YOINK
MUNCH
DON'T MIND IF I DO!
TRUTH BE TOLD...OUR QUARREL TODAY...
...BEGAN WITH LICHT STEALING APPLE PIE RIGHT FROM MY BREAKFAST PLATE...
SUCH A DRAMATIC QUARREL...
.....
...ALL OVER SOMETHING SO TRIFLING...
ISN'T BRUNIE PETTY?
I'VE HAD QUITE ENOUGH OF YOU!
P-PLEASE DO NOT MIS-INTERPRET.
MY ANGER STEMMED ENTIRELY FROM HIS LACK OF MANNERS, NOT BECAUSE...
...IS MOST CURIOUS!..
THE BOND BETWEEN BROTHERS...

TODAY'S LESSONS ENDED WITH NO ISSUES ONCE AGAIN.
...SEEMINGLY FORGING A DEEPER BOND THAN BEFORE.
...PRINCE BRUNO AND PRINCE LICHT MENDED THEIR RELATIONSHIP...
STOP
AS FAR AS OTHER PARTICULAR INCIDENTS TO BE BROUGHT TO YOUR MAJESTY'S NOTICE, I CAN THINK OF NO—


CREAK
WHY DO YOU SAY IT AS IF IT'S SO SIMPLE!?
NO ONE CAN KNOW FOR CERTAIN HOW ANOTHER FEELS!
.....

—WELL...
I DO WONDER...
♦The Royal Tutor ❷ End♦

WE'LL TAKE A LOOK AT A FEW DETAILS OF THE SETTING HERE.

WHAT? MORE STUDYING!?

THE STAGE OF THE ROYAL TUTOR, THE KINGDOM OF GRANZ-REICH...

...IS MODELED AFTER THE AUSTRIA-HUNGARIAN EMPIRE OF THE 1880s.

- A MULTIETHNIC, MULTILINGUAL NATION
- NATIONAL MOTTO: "EQUALITY TO ALL"
- ELECTED OFFICIALS SERVE ON THE PARLIAMENT, AND THE KING ACKNOWLEDGES THEIR RIGHT TO MAKE LAWS.

MILITARY STRUCTURE:

ARMY (INFANTRY, CAVALRY, GUNNERS)

+

NAVY

THE KING IS COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF ALL ARMED FORCES.

- AREA: 676 KM²
- CURRENCY: FLORINS/KREUZERS
- POPULATION: APPROX. SIX MILLION
- MAIN INDUSTRY: AGRICULTURE
- CAPITAL: WIENNER

THERE HASN'T BEEN MUCH OPPORTUNITY FOR THESE BACKGROUND DETAILS TO COME OUT IN THE MAIN STORY, BUT KEEPING THEM IN MIND AS YOU READ MIGHT GIVE YOU A MORE IN-DEPTH TAKE...MAYBE?

NO WAY!

WILL YOU REMEMBER THIS?

A PEGASUS SYMBOLIZES KNOWLEDGE

WHILE WE'RE AT IT, THIS IS THE NATIONAL COAT OF ARMS:

IN THE SECOND VOLUME, WE DUG A LITTLE DEEPER INTO EACH OF THE PRINCES, AND WITH THE INTRODUCTION OF THE KING AS WELL, THINGS HAVE LIVENED UP MORE, I THINK.
I WOULD BE HONORED IF YOU WOULD BE SO KIND AS TO JOIN HEINE AND THE PRINCES FOR LESSONS AGAIN. MAY WE MEET AGAIN IN VOLUME 3!

★SPECIAL THANKS★

TO THOSE WHO ARE CONSTANTLY HELPING ME:

YOSHI KOUJU-SAN SHOU YUDUKI-SAN

MY EDITOR, AKIYAMA-SAN

AND FOR MAKING TIME IN HER BUSY SCHEDULE TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE WRAPAROUND ON THIS VOLUME:

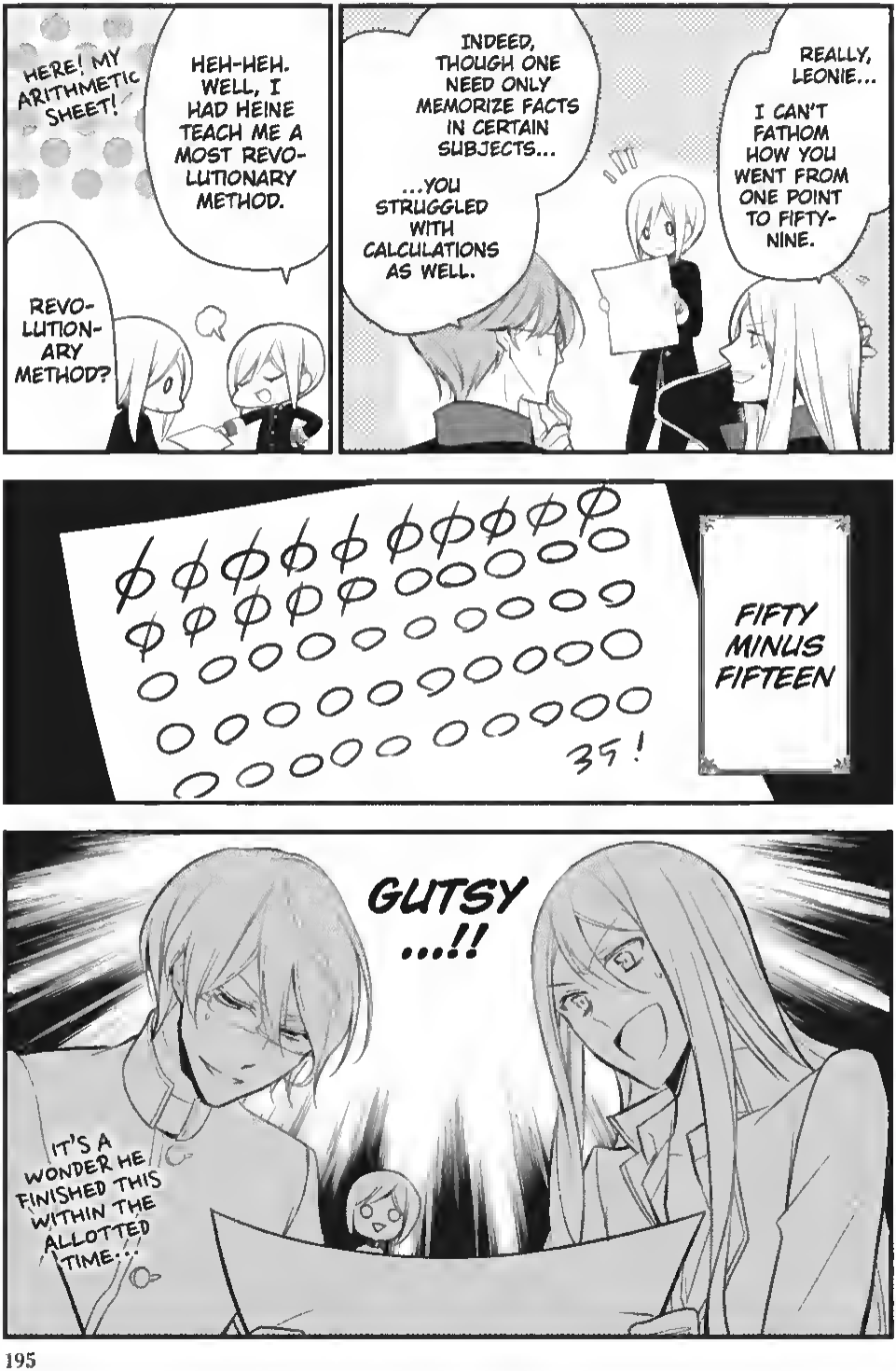
JUN MOCHIZUKI-SENSEI

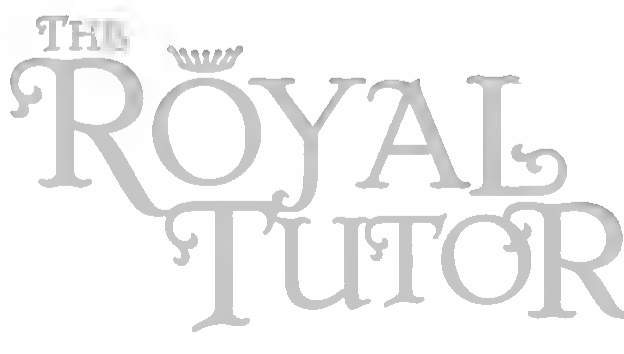
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

The Royal Tutor 3

AVAILABLE SEPTEMBER 2015

HAAH... NOTHIN' EVER 'APPENS AT THIS, DOES IT, SIR?
I'D SURE LIKE TO MOVE UP, GET MESELF IN A FANCY RANK.
MAXIMILIAN
LUDWIG
THE ROYAL GUARDS, WHO HAVE POPPED UP FROM TIME TO TIME, BEGINNING IN CHAPTER ONE...
...STAND STEADFAST BEFORE THE PALACE GATES AGAIN TODAY.
I'LL STAND HERE DEFENDING THESE GATES UNTIL MY DYING DAY!!
ROAR
BLITHERING FOOL! IT'S A HIGH HONOR, BEING TASKED WITH GUARDING THE GATES!
ALWAYS A CHUMMY PAIR, THOSE TWO.
CON-FOUND YOUUU ...!
SQUEEZE
AH-HA-HA! I'LL BE ORDERIN' YOU AROUND ONE DAY, I WILL, SIR!!
I'LL BE ON TA BETTER THINGS 'FORE LONG.
BEGGIN' YER PARDON, BUT ME OLD POP IS A CAPTAIN IN THE ROYAL NAVY, Y'SEE.
COM-MONER FAMILY


HERE! MY ARITHMETIC SHEET!
HEH-HEH. WELL, I HAD HEINE TEACH ME A MOST REVOLUTIONARY METHOD.
REVOLUTIONARY METHOD?
INDEED, THOUGH ONE NEED ONLY MEMORIZE FACTS IN CERTAIN SUBJECTS...
...YOU STRUGGLED WITH CALCULATIONS AS WELL.
REALLY, LEONIE...
I CAN'T FATHOM HOW YOU WENT FROM ONE POINT TO FIFTY-NINE.
35!
FIFTY MINUS FIFTEEN
GUTSY ...!!
IT'S A WONDER HE FINISHED THIS WITHIN THE ALLOTTED TIME...


THE
ROYAL
TUTOR

Translation Notes

Page 16
Ringstrasse: The Ringstrasse is a real road in Vienna, and Heine's explanation is accurate to the Ringstrasse in our world too.

Page 19
Currency: Kreuzer coins were used in Austria and the southern German states. In 1857, Austria-Hungary decimalized their money system so that one hundred kreuzer were equivalent to one florin. The name "florin" comes from Florence, the Italian city where the florin coins were first minted.

Page 27
Käsekrainers: A variety of Slovenian pork sausage with chunks of cheese stuffed inside. The "*Käse*" portion of the name means "cheese" in German.

Page 121
Niedergranzreich: *Nieder* means "lower" in German, so Niedergranzreich refers to Lower Granzreich.

Page 192
The Japanese editions of manga often come with disposable paper wraparounds (*obi*) printed with ad copy, announcements, sales figures, etc. Jun Mochizuki, the artist of *PandoraHearts*, contributed to the *obi* for the Japanese release of *The Royal Tutor*, Volume 2. Also, Shou Yuduki is another manga artist working for Square Enix.

The Royal Tutor ❷

Higasa Akai

Translation: Amanda Haley • Lettering: Erin Hickman

This book is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places, and incidents are the product of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual events, locales, or persons, living or dead, is coincidental.

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